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New Mexico
Traffic Accident Data
1980

New Mexico Department of Transportation
Motor Vehicle Division
Traffic Safety Bureau

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AT PRESS TIME

A motorcycle accident was discovered in which a vehicle had been coded as a car when, in fact, it was a motorcycle. To correct this coding error, add one fatality to the motorcycle tables and subtract one from the passenger car category.

Introduction

This report reviews data about traffic accidents in New Mexico from January through December, 1980, and provides some comparisons of the 1980 experience with previous years and with national accident rates. Accident occurrences are characterized in many different ways. Tables for those who seek reference information are accompanied by simple graphic illustrations of the same data for others who desire only an impressionistic understanding of the material. Maps are provided where geographic perspective is useful in data presentation.

These data are gathered from traffic accident reports completed by the thousands of police officers across the state, to whom a great debt is owed. This body of data was compiled by the New Mexico State Police Traffic Accident Records Center in Santa Fe, which provided it to the Division of Government Research at the University of New Mexico. The information was there reprocessed into a form well-suited to analysis by the computer programs which generated this report.

Because of the ubiquity and randomness of traffic accidents, data occasionally are incomplete or imprecise. Major advances in data integrity have been achieved in recent years in New Mexico. Nevertheless, minor discrepancies between table totals occur in a few places due to missing information.

Requests for further information or additional copies of this report should be addressed to:

Traffic Safety Bureau
Motor Vehicle Division
State of New Mexico
P.E.R.A. Building
P.O. Box 1028
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

(505) 827-2863

1.1 New Mexico accident facts

... 67% of New Mexico's fatal accidents involved alcohol (table 1.7)

... 34% of New Mexico's accidents occur in Bernalillo County (table 2.1)

... NM 76 in Santa Fe County contains New Mexico's most dangerous ten-mile stretch of road (table 2.6)

... 77% more fatal accidents occur in July than in January (table 3.1)

... Speeding is involved in 11% of accident involvements (table 4.3)

... 59% of fatal accidents occur at night (table 4.5)

... 67% of drivers in accidents were male (table 6.1)

... 64% of drivers in accidents lived within 25 miles of the accident site (table 6.2)

... Out-of-state drivers constituted 7% of accident involvements (table 6.2)

... 15 to 19 year old drivers had 90% more accident involvements per driver than did the general driver population (table 6.4)

... 9 licensed drivers in 100 were involved in accidents (table 6.4)

... Occupants in accidents who don't wear seat belts are twice as likely to be seriously injured or killed as those who do (table 7.1)

... 67 New Mexicans died in motorcycle accidents (table 8.1)

... 79% of those who died in motorcycle accidents wore no helmet (table 8.2)

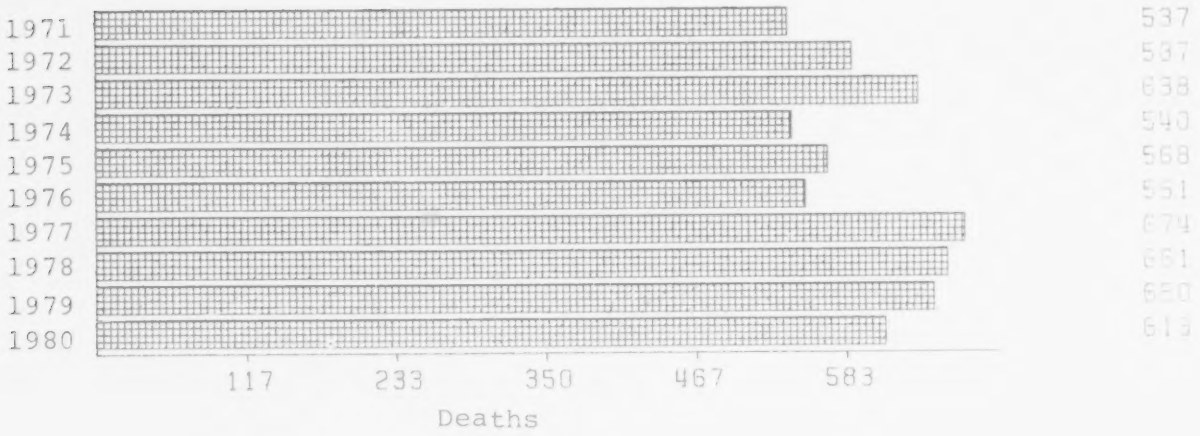
... 675 pedestrians were in accidents (table 9.1)

... 43% of alcohol-involved accidents happen on Friday and Saturday (table 11.1)

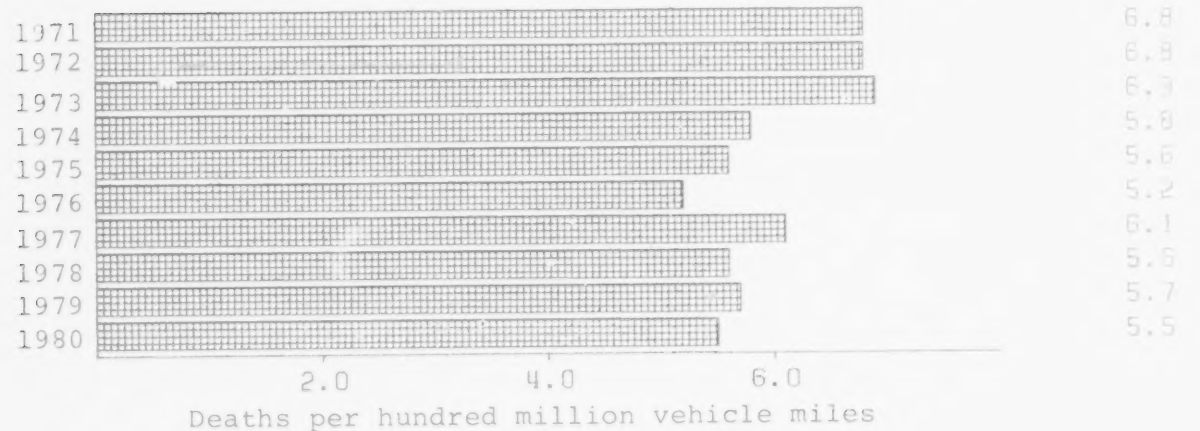
... Most alcohol-involved accidents happen at night (table 11.2)

... New Mexico's death rate in accidents is 57% higher than the national rate (table 12.1)

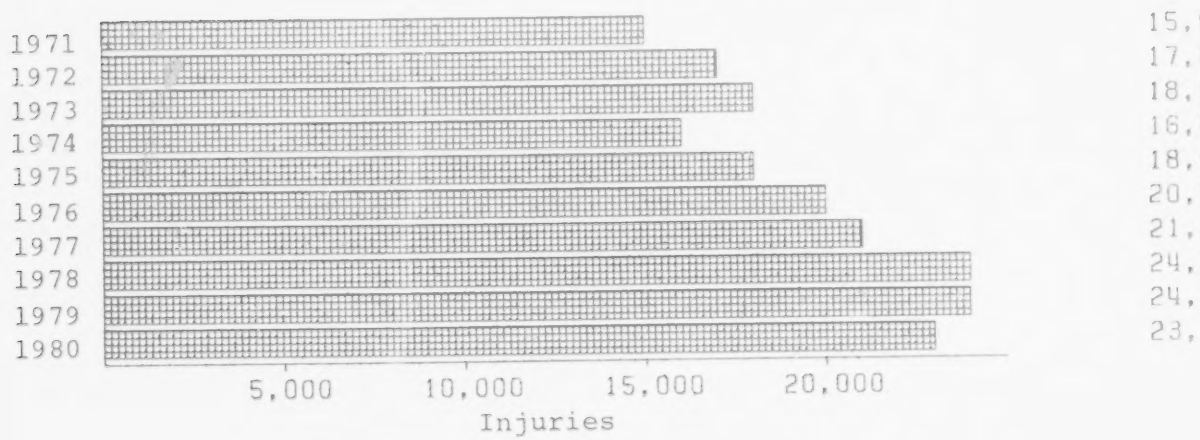
1.2 New Mexico accident deaths by year



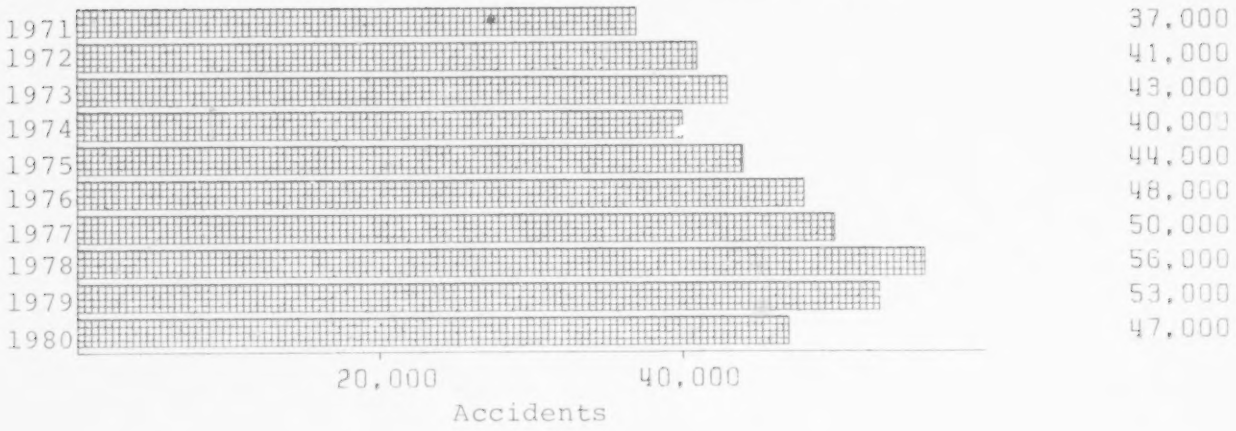
1.3 New Mexico accident death rates by year



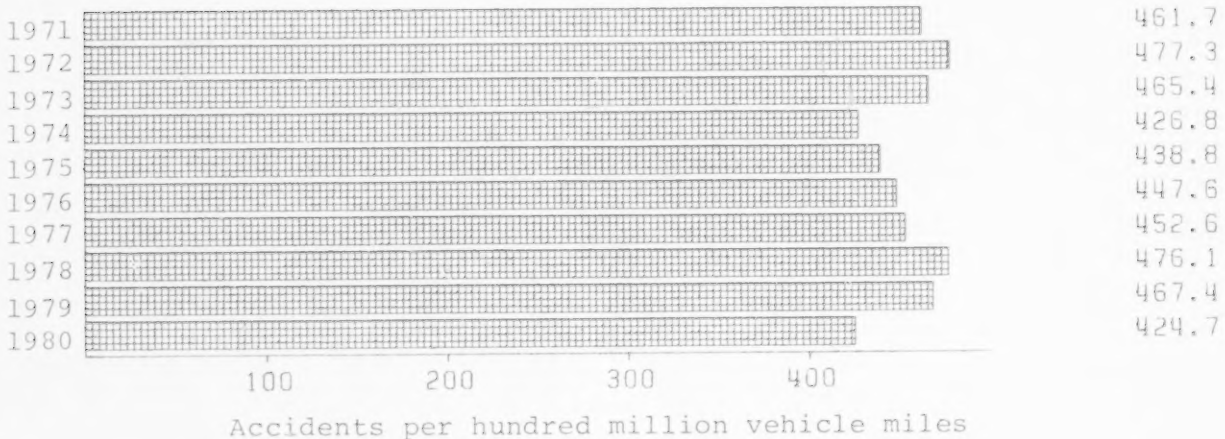
1.4 New Mexico accident injuries by year



1.5 New Mexico accidents by year



1.6 New Mexico accident rates by year



1.7 Ten year New Mexico review

Year	Number of accidents	Fatal accidents	Deaths	Alcohol involved fatal acc	% Alcohol involved fatal acc	Fatal acc rate	Death rate
1971	36,665	448	537	153	34.2	5.6	6.8
1972	41,168	488	587	178	36.5	5.7	6.8
1973	42,842	528	638	199	37.7	5.7	6.9
1974	39,741	442	540	176	39.8	4.7	5.8
1975	44,364	479	568	190	39.7	4.7	5.6
1976	47,525	463	551	152	32.8	4.4	5.2
1977	50,316	572	674	161	28.1	5.1	6.1
1978	55,717	580	661	191	32.9	5.0	5.6
1979	52,969	569	650	366	64.3	5.0	5.7
1980	47,407	523	613	350	66.9	4.7	5.5

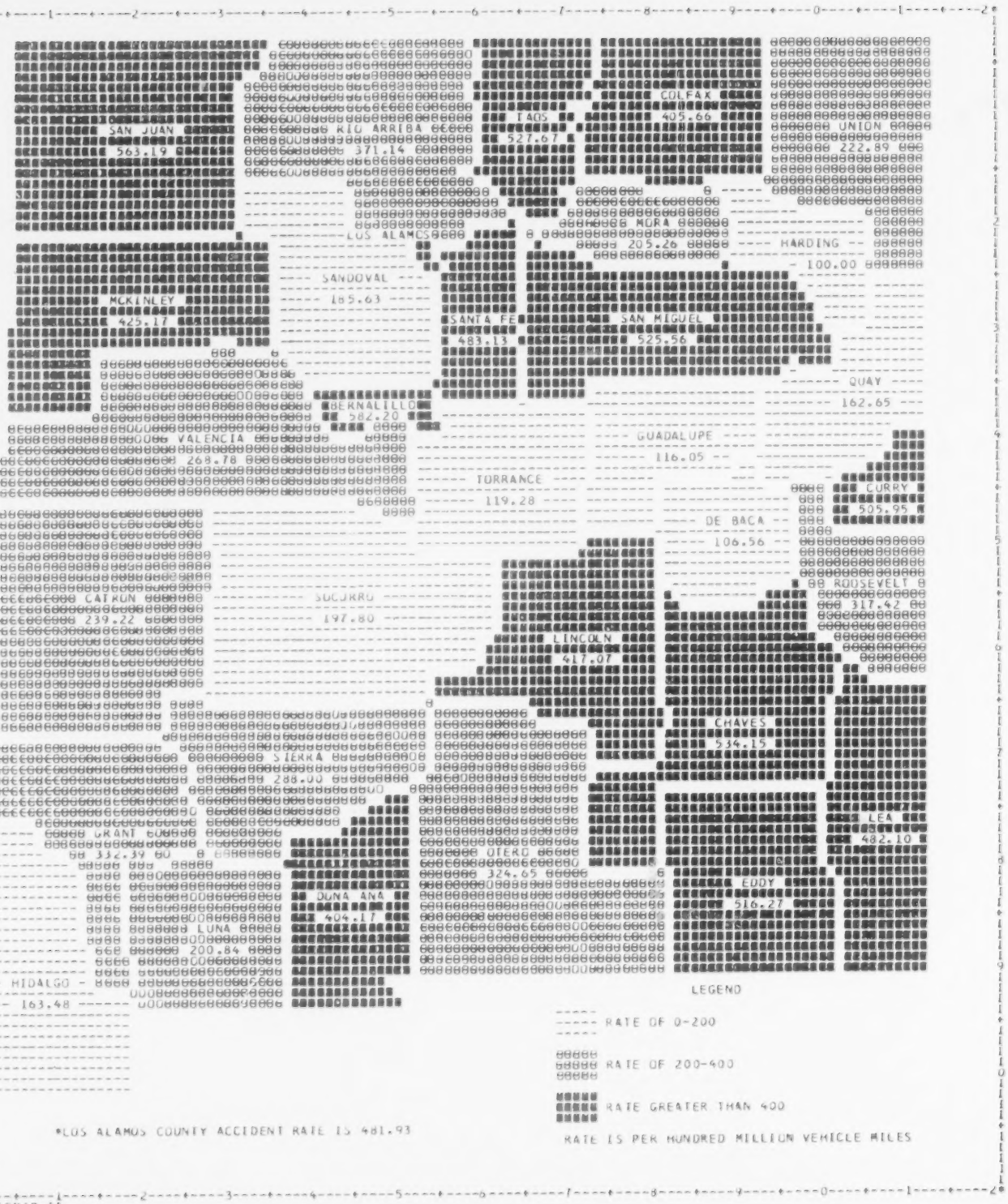
(Rates are per hundred million vehicle miles)

2.1 New Mexico accidents by county, 1980

	Accidents				Persons			
County	Total	Fatal	Injury	Acc. rate	Killed	Injured	Death rate	100 mvm
Bernalillo	15,894	81	5,253	582.20	90	7,929	3.30	27.30
Catron	122	3	31	239.22	3	48	5.88	0.51
Chaves	1,971	16	606	534.15	20	947	5.42	3.69
Colfax	645	5	140	405.66	5	226	3.14	1.59
Curry	1,275	8	316	505.95	10	430	3.97	2.52
De Baca	65	2	16	106.56	2	23	3.28	0.61
Dona Ana	2,910	27	925	404.17	31	1,410	4.31	7.20
Eddy	1,745	11	488	516.27	11	695	3.25	3.38
Grant	821	7	251	332.39	8	363	3.24	2.47
Guadalupe	282	7	104	116.05	8	194	3.29	2.43
Harding	15	0	5	100.00	0	6	0.00	0.15
Hidalgo	188	5	63	163.48	7	130	6.09	1.15
Lea	2,155	28	549	482.10	35	822	7.83	4.47
Lincoln	684	10	216	417.07	11	330	6.71	1.64
Los Alamos	400	2	83	481.93	2	124	2.41	0.83
Luna	476	13	143	200.84	15	211	6.33	2.37
McKinley	2,534	55	585	425.17	67	1,045	11.24	5.96
Mora	117	3	56	205.26	3	81	5.26	0.57
Otero	1,146	18	323	324.65	24	515	6.80	3.53
Quay	418	9	135	162.65	13	206	5.06	2.57
Rio Arriba	913	12	316	371.14	13	557	5.28	2.46
Roosevelt	492	3	101	317.42	4	137	2.58	1.55
Sandoval	620	25	198	185.63	34	354	10.18	3.34
San Juan	3,672	60	1,159	563.19	62	1,936	9.51	6.52
San Miguel	946	9	231	525.56	11	358	6.11	1.80
Santa Fe	3,092	25	1,109	483.13	28	1,874	4.38	6.40
Sierra	288	5	68	288.00	5	111	5.00	1.00
Socorro	449	11	124	197.80	17	187	7.49	2.27
Taos	839	11	222	527.67	14	335	8.81	1.59
Torrance	266	9	92	119.28	9	172	4.04	2.23
Union	185	5	46	222.89	5	90	6.02	0.83
Valencia	1,782	38	579	268.78	46	938	6.94	6.63
Total	47,407	523	14,533	424.95	613	22,784	5.49	111.56

(Rates are per hundred million vehicle miles)

2.2 New Mexico accident rates by county, 1980



2.3 New Mexico accidents in urban areas, 1980
(5,000 or more people in 1980 Census)

	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Alamogordo	690	2	155	533	2	217
Albuquerque	15,482	69	5,079	10,334	77	7,644
Artesia	523	2	107	414	2	136
Aztec	164	1	49	114	1	83
Belen	241	2	58	181	3	83
Carlsbad	896	3	261	632	3	361
Clovis	1,110	3	263	844	4	355
Deming	303	2	73	228	3	104
Espanola	375	1	115	259	1	192
Farmington	2,177	12	635	1,530	12	1,025
Gallup	1,569	5	282	1,282	5	474
Grants	527	3	136	388	4	201
Hobbs	1,288	6	345	937	7	494
Las Cruces	2,052	8	595	1,449	9	897
Las Vegas	734	2	135	597	2	206
Los Alamos	390	2	81	307	2	118
Lovington	332	4	56	272	4	78
Portales	379	0	66	313	0	82
Raton	389	2	59	328	2	83
Rio Rancho	88	2	24	62	2	43
Roswell	1,601	7	510	1,084	7	798
Santa Fe	2,223	7	787	1,429	7	1,345
Silver City	435	2	107	326	2	148
Socorro	264	4	48	212	4	67
Truth or Consequences	168	2	31	135	2	50
Tucumcari	255	1	74	180	1	105

2.4 New Mexico accidents in incorporated areas, 1980
(Less than 5,000 people in 1980 Census)

	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Anthony	36	0	13	23	0	15
Bayard	38	0	3	35	0	3
Bernalillo	62	0	9	53	0	13
Bloomfield	118	3	28	87	3	52
Bosque Farms	43	0	16	27	0	25
Capitan	23	1	4	18	1	5
Carrizozo	15	0	0	15	0	0
Causey	1	1	0	0	1	0
Central	15	1	5	9	1	6
Chama	14	0	4	10	0	6
Cimarron	14	0	1	13	0	1
Clayton	107	0	19	88	0	36
Cloudcroft	5	0	1	4	0	2
Corona	1	0	0	1	0	0
Corrales	52	0	16	36	0	27
Cuba	38	1	7	30	3	10
Des Moines	1	0	0	1	0	0
Dexter	1	0	0	1	0	0
Dora	3	0	1	2	0	2
Elida	6	0	4	2	0	4
Encino	2	0	0	2	0	0
Estancia	11	0	3	8	0	3
Eunice	50	1	7	42	1	13
Fort Sumner	37	0	3	34	0	5
Hagerman	14	0	1	13	0	2
Hatch	28	0	3	25	0	3
Hope	1	0	0	1	0	0
House	1	0	0	1	0	0
Hurley	8	0	2	6	0	4
Jal	43	1	12	30	1	17
Jemez Springs	20	1	10	9	1	17
Lake Arthur	2	0	2	0	0	2
La Mesilla	30	0	9	21	0	17
Logan	15	0	1	14	0	1
Lordsburg	69	0	16	53	0	27
Los Lunas	116	2	51	63	2	97
Loving	3	0	1	2	0	2
Magdalena	1	0	0	1	0	0
Maxwell	1	0	1	0	0	1
Melrose	6	0	0	6	0	0
Milan	82	1	17	64	1	30
Moriarty	26	0	8	18	0	15
Mosquero	2	0	0	2	0	0
Mountainair	7	0	2	5	0	4
Pecos	3	1	0	2	1	0
Questa	36	0	9	27	0	14
Red River	28	0	8	20	0	8
Reserve	5	0	2	3	0	2
Ruidoso	374	0	128	246	0	176
Ruidoso Downs	25	0	8	17	0	16
San Jon	4	0	1	3	0	2
San Ysidro	13	0	4	9	0	7
Santa Rosa	77	1	10	66	1	23

2.4 New Mexico accidents in incorporated areas, 1980
(Less than 5,000 people in 1980 Census)

	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Shiprock	151	3	44	104	3	88
Springer	29	0	7	22	0	11
Taos	318	0	64	254	0	87
Tatum	31	0	8	23	0	11
Texico	20	0	3	17	0	5
Tijeras	11	0	3	8	0	7
Tularosa	39	0	11	28	0	19
Vaughn	12	1	0	11	1	0
Wagon Mound	7	0	1	6	0	1
Willard	2	0	2	0	0	2
Williamsburg	4	0	0	4	0	0

2.5 New Mexico accidents in pueblos and reservations, 1980

	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Acoma	62	1	23	38	2	33
Alamo Navajo	5	1	1	3	1	10
Canoncito Navajo	3	0	0	3	0	0
Cochiti	8	1	1	6	1	3
Isleta	23	2	9	12	2	17
Jemez	17	2	3	12	2	6
Jicarillo Apache	71	4	17	50	4	34
Laguna	132	6	60	66	7	104
Mescalero Apache	87	2	34	51	2	55
Nambe	15	0	6	9	0	13
Navajo	338	17	125	196	18	235
Picuris	26	0	10	16	0	15
Pojoaque	53	4	23	26	5	39
Ramah Navajo	14	1	4	9	2	8
Sandia	22	1	14	7	1	22
San Felipe	33	3	11	19	3	17
San Ildefonso	17	1	9	7	1	11
San Juan	52	0	20	32	0	50
Santa Ana	9	2	1	6	4	2
Santa Clara	74	2	25	47	3	57
Santo Domingo	8	1	1	6	2	5
Taos Pueblo	4	0	0	4	0	0
Tesuque	24	1	9	14	1	15
Zia	7	1	1	5	1	9
Zuni	60	2	15	43	3	29

2.6 New Mexico's seven least safe rural highway segments, 1980

Highway	Mile	County	Accidents: Total	Fatal	Injury	Alcohol	Acc rate	Thousand veh miles
1. NM76	0 to 10	Santa Fe	111	1	39	26	832.7	13,331
2. NM75	10 to 20	Taos	31	0	12	13	706.3	4,389
3. US64	100 to 110	Rio Arriba	31	2	10	6	694.8	4,461
4. US64	70 to 80	Taos	57	1	14	16	580.4	9,820
5. NM489	0 to 10	San Juan	40	1	11	10	578.4	6,916
6. NM28	0 to 10	Dona Ana	26	0	16	4	529.2	4,913
7. NM47	20 to 30	Valencia	45	1	17	11	473.7	9,499

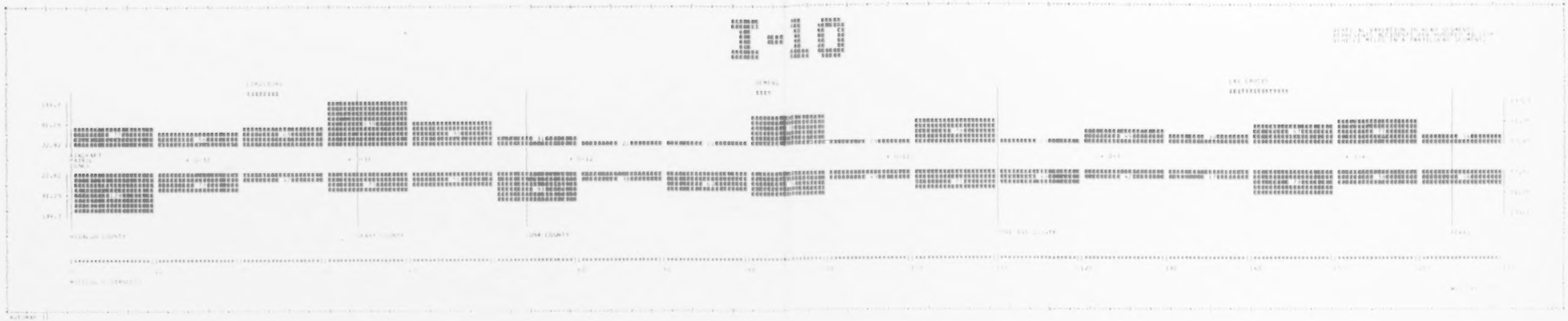
(Rate is accidents per hundred million vehicle miles)

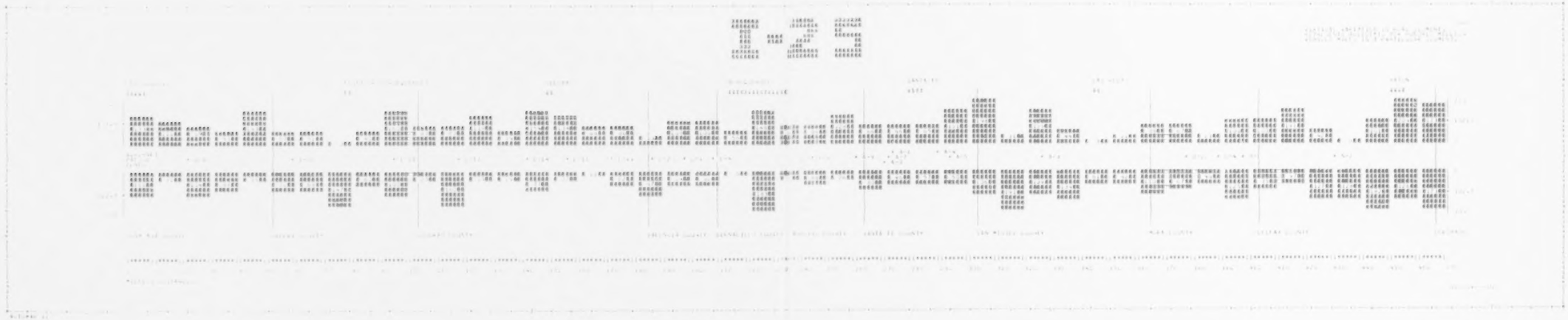
2.7 New Mexico accidents on interstate highways, 1980

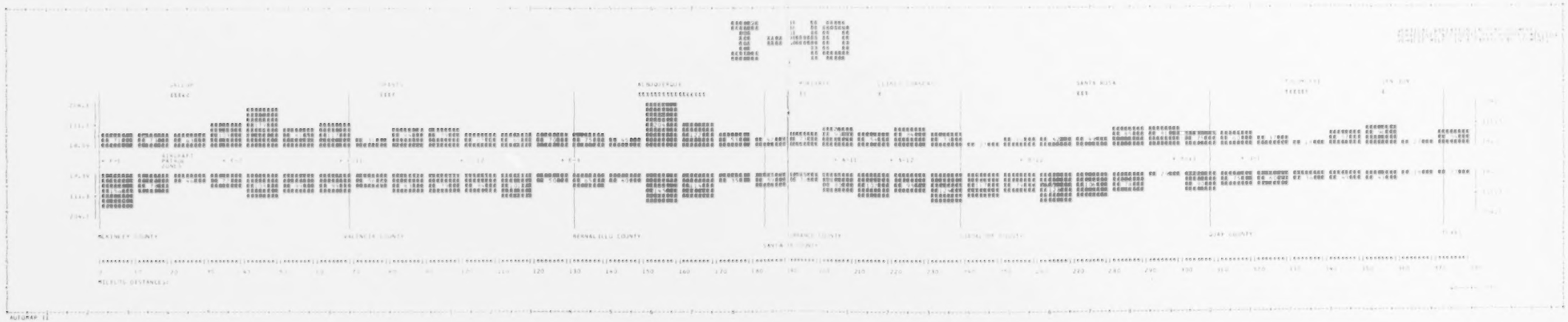
	Accidents			Persons			
Interstate	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured	Accident Rate	Vehicle Miles
I-10	294	12	136	15	238	64.0	4.60
I-25	1,119	20	478	26	728	124.8	8.97
I-40	2,068	41	735	47	1,199	140.4	14.73
Total	3,481	73	1,349	88	2,165	123.0	28.29

(Rate is per hundred million vehicle miles)

2.8 New Mexico interstate highway accident rates, 1980







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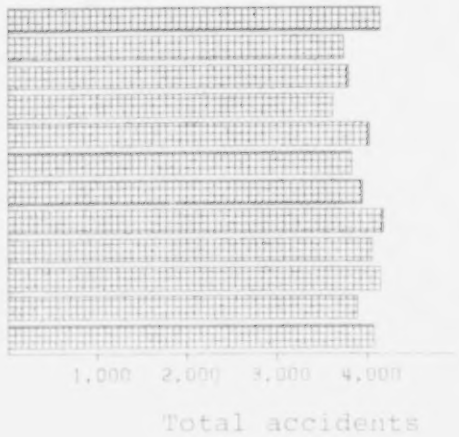
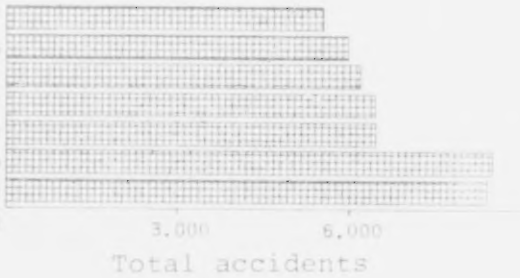
3.1 New Mexico accidents by month, 1980

Month	Total	Percent	Fatal	Percent
January	4,140	8.7	35	6.7
February	3,745	7.9	34	6.5
March	3,793	8.0	44	8.4
April	3,620	7.6	31	5.9
May	4,023	8.5	53	10.1
June	3,827	8.1	57	10.9
July	3,946	8.3	62	11.9
August	4,170	8.8	41	7.8
September	4,048	8.5	49	9.4
October	4,144	8.7	35	6.7
November	3,883	8.2	40	7.6
December	4,068	8.6	42	8.0
Total	47,407	100.0	523	100.0

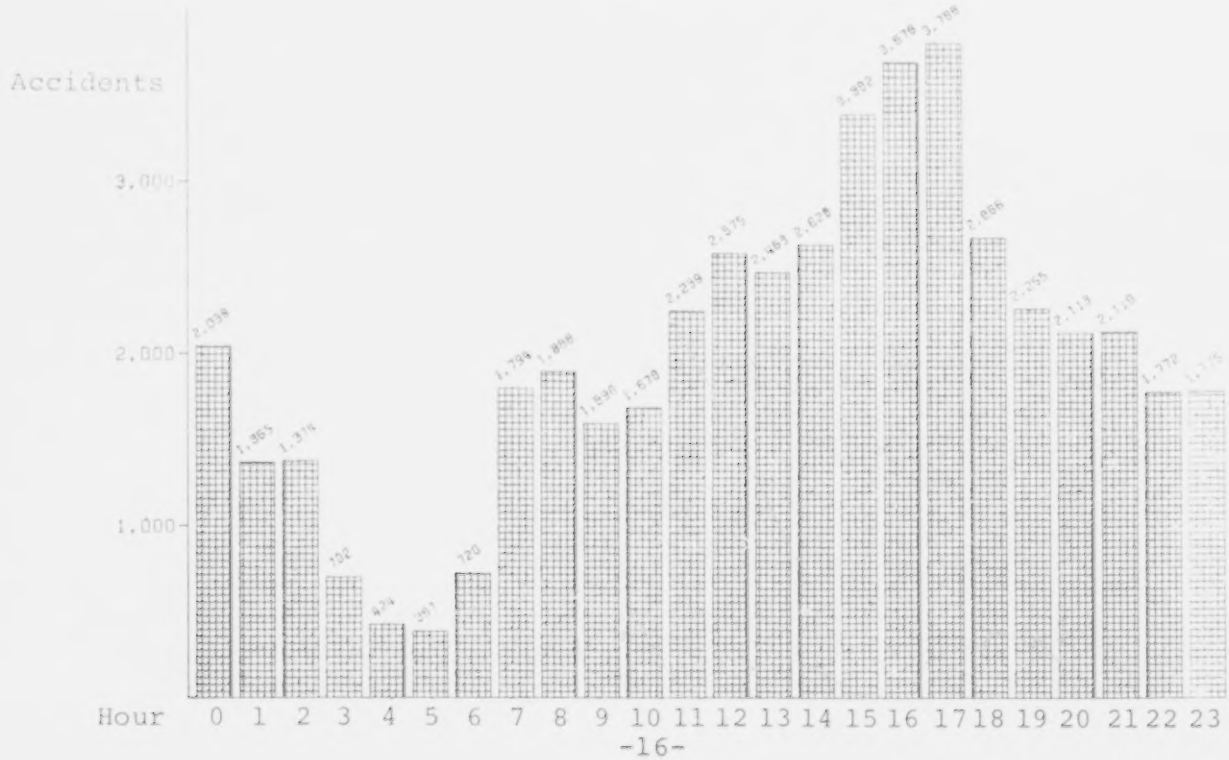


3.2 New Mexico accidents by day of the week, 1980

Day	Total	Percent	Fatal	Percent
Sunday	5,541	11.7	77	14.7
Monday	5,967	12.6	50	9.6
Tuesday	6,187	13.1	54	10.3
Wednesday	6,436	13.6	61	11.7
Thursday	6,450	13.6	62	11.9
Friday	8,459	17.8	94	18.0
Saturday	8,367	17.6	125	23.9
Total	47,407	100.0	523	100.0



3.3 New Mexico accidents by hour of the day, 1980



3.4 New Mexico's seven worst times of the week, 1980

	Time		Acc	%		Time		Acc	%
Urban	1. Friday	17-18	628	1.7	Rural	1. Saturday	18-19	144	1.4
	2. Friday	16-17	573	1.5		2. Sunday	0- 1	133	1.3
	3. Friday	15-16	560	1.5		3. Saturday	21-22	130	1.3
	4. Wednesday	16-17	507	1.4		4. Sunday	1- 2	125	1.2
	5. Monday	17-18	491	1.3		5. Sunday	2- 3	125	1.2
	6. Tuesday	17-18	476	1.3		6. Friday	17-18	125	1.2
	7. Wednesday	17-18	469	1.3		7. Friday	21-22	123	1.2

3.5 New Mexico holiday fatalities, 1976 to 1980

Holiday	Year	Killed	Hours	Period				
Easter	1976	2	54	From 6 PM Fri	4/16	to Midnight Sun	4/18
	1977	4	54	From 6 PM Fri	4/8	to Midnight Sun	4/10
	1978	5	54	From 6 PM Fri	3/24	to Midnight Sun	3/26
	1979	7	54	From 6 PM Fri	4/13	to Midnight Sun	4/15
	1980	6	54	From 6 PM Fri	4/4	to Midnight Sun	4/6
Memorial Day	1976	6	78	From 6 PM Fri	5/28	to Midnight Mon	5/31
	1977	11	78	From 6 PM Fri	5/27	to Midnight Mon	5/30
	1978	7	78	From 6 PM Fri	5/26	to Midnight Mon	5/29
	1979	9	78	From 6 PM Fri	5/25	to Midnight Mon	5/28
	1980	14	78	From 6 PM Fri	5/23	to Midnight Mon	5/26
July 4th	1976	4	78	From 6 PM Fri	7/2	to Midnight Mon	7/5
	1977	8	78	From 6 PM Fri	7/1	to Midnight Mon	7/4
	1978	8	102	From 6 PM Fri	6/30	to Midnight Tue	7/4
	1979	12	126	From 6 PM Tue	7/3	to Midnight Sun	7/8
	1980	12	78	From 6 PM Thu	7/3	to Midnight Sun	7/6
Labor Day	1976	17	78	From 6 PM Fri	9/3	to Midnight Mon	9/6
	1977	8	78	From 6 PM Fri	9/2	to Midnight Mon	9/5
	1978	14	78	From 6 PM Fri	9/1	to Midnight Mon	9/4
	1979	10	78	From 6 PM Fri	8/31	to Midnight Mon	9/3
	1980	11	78	From 6 PM Fri	8/29	to Midnight Mon	9/1
Thanksgiving	1976	10	102	From 6 PM Wed	11/24	to Midnight Sun	11/28
	1977	11	102	From 6 PM Wed	11/23	to Midnight Sun	11/27
	1978	9	102	From 6 PM Wed	11/22	to Midnight Sun	11/26
	1979	7	102	From 6 PM Wed	11/21	to Midnight Sun	11/25
	1980	6	102	From 6 PM Wed	11/27	to Midnight Sun	12/1
Christmas	1976	2	78	From 6 PM Thu	12/23	to Midnight Sun	12/26
	1977	9	78	From 6 PM Fri	12/23	to Midnight Mon	12/26
	1978	9	102	From 6 PM Thu	12/21	to Midnight Mon	12/25
	1979	14	102	From 6 PM Fri	12/21	to Midnight Tue	12/25
	1980	6	126	From 6 PM Tue	12/23	to Midnight Sun	12/28
New Year's	1976	8	78	From 6 PM Thu	12/30	to Midnight Sun	1/2/77
	1977	18	78	From 6 PM Fri	12/29	to Midnight Mon	1/2/78
	1978	8	78	From 6 PM Fri	12/29	to Midnight Mon	1/1/79
	1979	7	102	From 6 PM Fri	12/28	to Midnight Tue	1/1/80
	1980	4	126	From 6 PM Tue	12/30	to Midnight Sun	1/4/81

4.1 New Mexico accidents by class, 1980

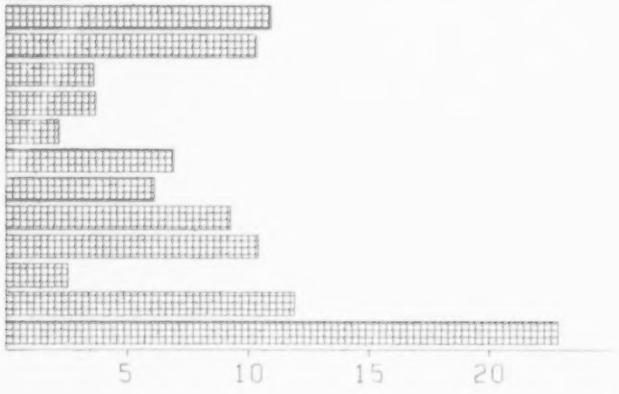
	Accidents					Persons	
	Total	%	Fatal	%	Injury	Killed	Injured
Other vehicle	29,120	61.43	162	30.98	8,860	218	15,037
Pedestrian	630	1.33	105	20.08	496	106	551
Fixed object	6,594	13.91	73	13.96	1,863	81	2,506
Veh. on other road	32	0.07	4	0.76	14	5	40
Parked vehicle	5,095	10.75	11	2.10	584	15	763
Overturn	3,681	7.76	155	29.64	1,916	174	2,939
Other non-collision	857	1.81	6	1.15	314	6	387
Pedalcyclist	373	0.79	2	0.38	319	2	335
Railroad train	31	0.07	4	0.76	11	5	16
Animal	772	1.63	1	0.19	104	1	140
Other object	218	0.46	0	0.00	52	0	70
Other	4	0.01	0	0.00	0	0	0
Total	47,407	100	523	100	14,533	613	22,784

4.2 New Mexico fixed object accidents, 1980

	Accidents			Persons	
Object	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Barricade	41	0	16	0	18
Bridge or pier	108	5	30	6	47
Building	254	2	65	2	81
Cattle guard	42	2	12	2	17
Culvert or drain	178	5	79	5	128
Embankment	332	9	148	9	230
Fence	1,674	5	303	5	370
Guard rail or post	448	18	162	23	235
Median or curb	418	4	134	4	157
Sign, pole, meter, hydrant	1,811	9	553	9	730
Tree	418	7	152	7	225
Other or unknown	870	7	209	9	268
Total	6,594	73	1,863	81	2,506

4.3 New Mexico accident contributing factors, 1980

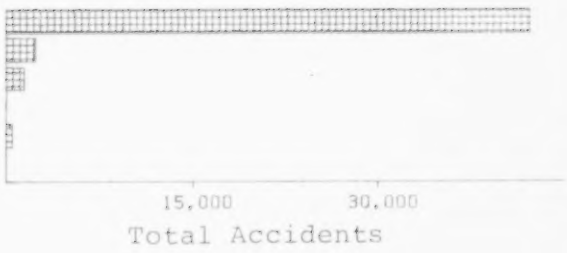
	% of involvements
Excessive speed	10.9
Failure to yield	10.3
Disregard traffic control	3.6
Drove left of center	3.7
Improper overtaking	2.2
Follow too close	6.9
Improper turn	6.1
Alcohol involved	9.2
Other improper driving	10.4
Mechanical defects	2.5
Driver inattention	11.9
Other	22.8



(An involvement may have several contributing factors, so percentages may not sum to 100%)

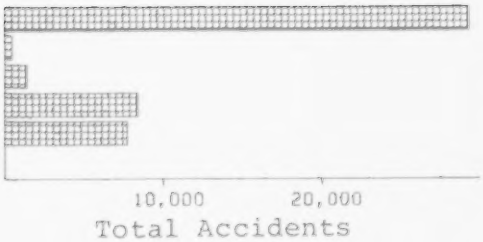
4.4 New Mexico accidents by weather, 1980

	Total	Fatal	Injury
Clear	42,245	473	13,064
Rain	2,326	22	727
Snow/Sleet	1,451	17	375
Fog	285	4	72
Dust/Wind	497	4	142
Other	431	0	115
	47,235	520	14,495



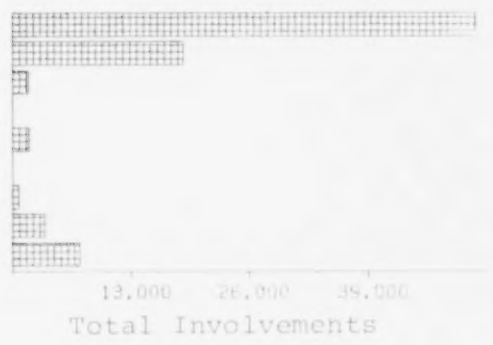
4.5 New Mexico accidents by light, 1980

	Total	Fatal	Injury
Daylight	29,281	189	8,594
Dawn	430	13	145
Dusk	1,380	12	435
Dark,lighted	8,333	67	2,598
Dark,unlighted	7,686	240	2,718
Other,unknown	201	1	26
	47,311	522	14,516



5.1 New Mexico accident involvements by vehicle type, 1980

Vehicle type	Total	Fatal	Injury
Passenger car	50,772	307	15,445
Pickup	18,741	216	5,229
Semi	1,739	56	524
Bus	389	3	79
Motorcycle	1,828	64	1,427
Pedalcyclist	366	2	314
Pedestrian	694	115	552
Van or 4WD	3,514	42	1,006
Other	7,411	55	1,715
Total	85,454	860	26,291

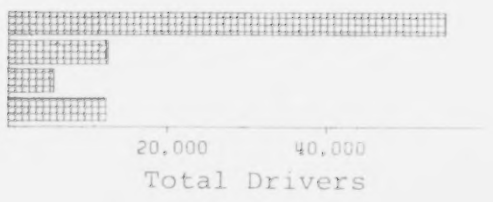


6.1 New Mexico accident driver age and sex, 1980

	Total	Male	Female
Under 15	535	394	141
15-19	14,916	9,953	4,963
20-24	14,401	9,962	4,439
25-29	10,885	7,376	3,509
30-34	7,987	5,316	2,671
35-39	5,327	3,408	1,919
40-44	4,036	2,670	1,366
45-49	3,480	2,299	1,181
50-54	3,083	2,090	993
55-59	2,735	1,800	935
60-64	2,057	1,398	659
65 & over	3,944	2,641	1,303
Total	73,386	49,307	24,079

6.2 New Mexico accident driver residence, 1980

	Total	Fatal	Injury
Local	55,112	397	17,874
Elsewhere in NM	12,384	168	4,259
Outside NM	5,722	140	1,850
Unknown	12,236	155	2,308
	85,454	860	26,291



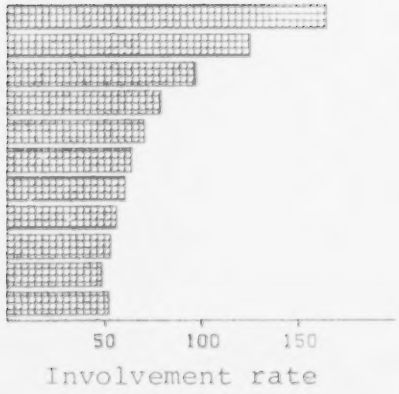
6.3 New Mexico accident occupant age and sex, 1980

	Total	Male	Female
0-4	959	516	443
5-9	803	421	382
10-14	987	500	487
15-19	4,736	2,712	2,024
20-24	4,340	2,674	1,666
25-29	3,125	1,900	1,225
30-34	2,125	1,256	869
35-39	1,340	733	607
40-44	1,008	554	454
45-49	870	465	405
50-54	804	442	362
55-59	665	345	320
60-64	462	229	233
65 & over	1,041	487	554
Total	23,265	13,234	10,031

(These counts are of killed or injured persons in accidents)

6.4 New Mexico accident involvement rates, 1980

Age	Driver involvements	Dec 80 drivers	Inv. per 1,000 drivers
15-19	14,916	90,791	164.29
20-24	14,401	115,241	124.96
25-29	10,885	112,111	97.09
30-34	7,987	101,340	78.81
35-39	5,327	76,008	70.08
40-44	4,036	63,340	63.72
45-49	3,480	57,588	60.43
50-54	3,083	54,906	56.15
55-59	2,735	51,700	52.90
60-64	2,057	42,380	48.54
65 & over	3,944	75,984	51.91
Total	72,851	841,389	86.58



7.1 New Mexico accident seatbelt usage and injuries, 1980

	Belt worn		Belt not worn		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Killed	5	0.16	357	1.08	362	1.00
Incapacitating injury	108	3.50	2,508	7.55	2,616	7.21
Visible injury	400	12.97	5,892	17.74	6,292	17.34
Complaint of injury	988	32.04	8,219	24.75	9,207	25.37
Unhurt	1,583	51.33	16,232	48.88	17,815	49.09
Total	3,084	100.00	33,208	100.00	36,292	100.00

These are counts of occupants of passenger cars, pickups, vans, and four wheel drive vehicles in fatal and injury accidents.

8.1 New Mexico motorcycle accident trends, 1972-1980

Year	Number of accidents	Number of fatalities	Registrations
1980	1,769	67**	50,576
1979	1,842	52*	46,803
1978	1,683	49	42,557
1977	1,543	28	38,750
1976	1,327	24	37,578
1975	1,215	27	35,152
1974	1,259	37	33,521
1973	1,348	29	27,321
1972	1,456	33	29,700

* This includes a bicyclist and pedestrian that were killed in motorcycle accidents.

** This includes one pedestrian killed in a motorcycle accident.

8.2 New Mexico motorcycle fatality helmet usage trends, 1972-1980

Year	Fatalities	With helmets	Without helmets	Unknown
1980	66	14 (21%)	52 (79%)	0
1979	50	14 (28%)	36 (72%)	0
1978	49	11 (22%)	37 (77%)	1
1977	28	16 (57%)	12 (43%)	0
1976	24	15 (62%)	9 (38%)	0
1975	27	16 (59%)	10 (37%)	1
1974	37	30 (81%)	7 (19%)	0
1973	29	10 (34%)	19 (66%)	0
1972	33	9 (27%)	24 (73%)	0

8.3 New Mexico helmet usage and injuries, 1980

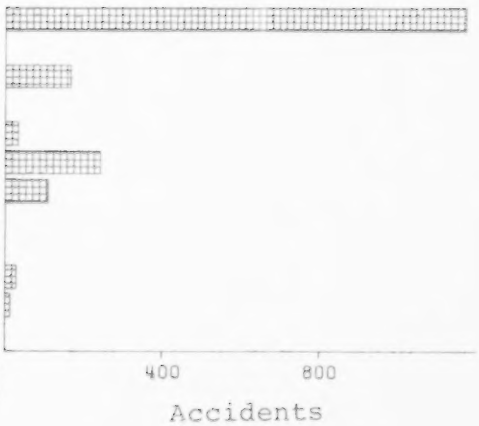
Injury	With helmet	Without helmet	Total
Killed	14	52	66
Incapacitating	213	296	509
Visible injury	311	493	804
Complaint	142	155	297
Unhurt	177	292	469
Total	857	1,288	2,145

8.4 New Mexico motorcycle accident involvements by driver age, 1980

	Accidents			Persons	
Age	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Under 15	155	3	82	3	85
15-19	468	13	377	15	438
20-24	556	18	449	16	512
25-29	282	13	225	15	249
30-34	177	10	136	10	154
35-39	68	2	59	2	63
40-44	53	2	43	2	47
45-49	21	2	17	2	19
50-54	21	0	16	0	18
55-59	11	1	8	1	9
60-64	11	0	11	0	12
65 & over	5	0	4	0	4
Total	1,828	64	1,427	66	1,610

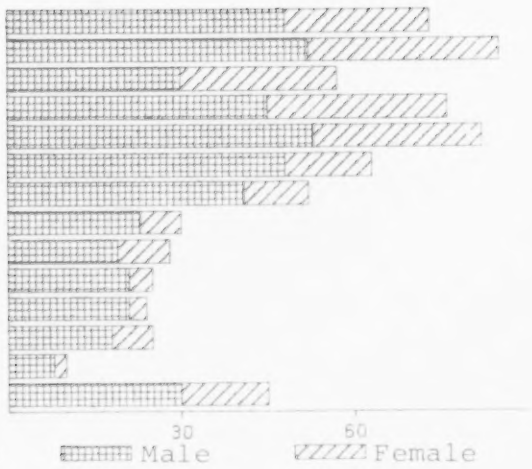
8.5 New Mexico motorcycle accident class, 1980

	Number	Percent
Other vehicle	1,174	66.37
Pedestrian	0	0.00
Fixed object	166	9.38
Veh. on other road	0	0.00
Parked vehicle	33	1.87
Overturn	243	13.74
Other non-collision	109	6.16
Pedalcyclist	1	0.06
Railroad train	0	0.00
Animal	29	1.64
Other object	14	0.79
Other	0	0.00
Total	1,769	100



9.1 New Mexico pedestrians in accidents, 1980

Age	Total	Male	Female
0-4	73	48	25
5-9	85	52	33
10-14	57	30	27
15-19	76	45	31
20-24	82	53	29
25-29	63	48	15
30-34	52	41	11
35-39	30	23	7
40-44	28	19	9
45-49	25	21	4
50-54	24	21	3
55-59	25	18	7
60-64	10	8	2
65 & over	45	30	15
Total	675	457	218

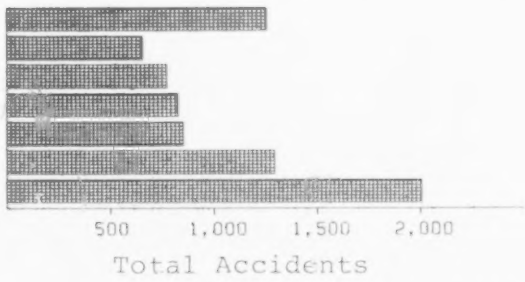


10.1 New Mexico traffic accidents involving trains, 1961-1980

	Accidents				Persons	
Year	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage only	Killed	Injured
1980	31	4	11	16	5	16
1979	35	8	10	17	8	14
1978	33	7	8	18	8	13
1977	26	2	9	15	3	15
1976	34	7	10	17	8	16
1975	34	-	16	18	-	24
1974	43	4	14	25	6	19
1973	44	4	17	23	5	21
1972	34	4	7	23	8	12
1971	44	6	11	27	10	15
1970	29	2	8	19	3	9
1969	32	6	8	18	6	12
1968	29	3	12	14	6	18
1967	25	4	5	16	7	8
1966	25	5	7	13	6	16
1965	35	3	6	26	5	8
1964	33	5	12	16	6	20
1963	26	3	7	16	4	10
1962	29	5	9	15	7	12
1961	30	-	12	18	-	18

11.1 New Mexico alcohol-involved accidents by day of the week, 1980

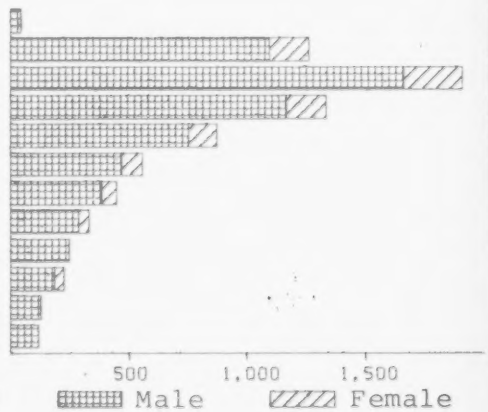
Day	Total	Fatal	Injury
Sunday	1,256	49	525
Monday	655	33	266
Tuesday	769	34	353
Wednesday	823	39	354
Thursday	852	39	384
Friday	1,290	58	561
Saturday	2,004	98	844
Total	7,649	350	3,287



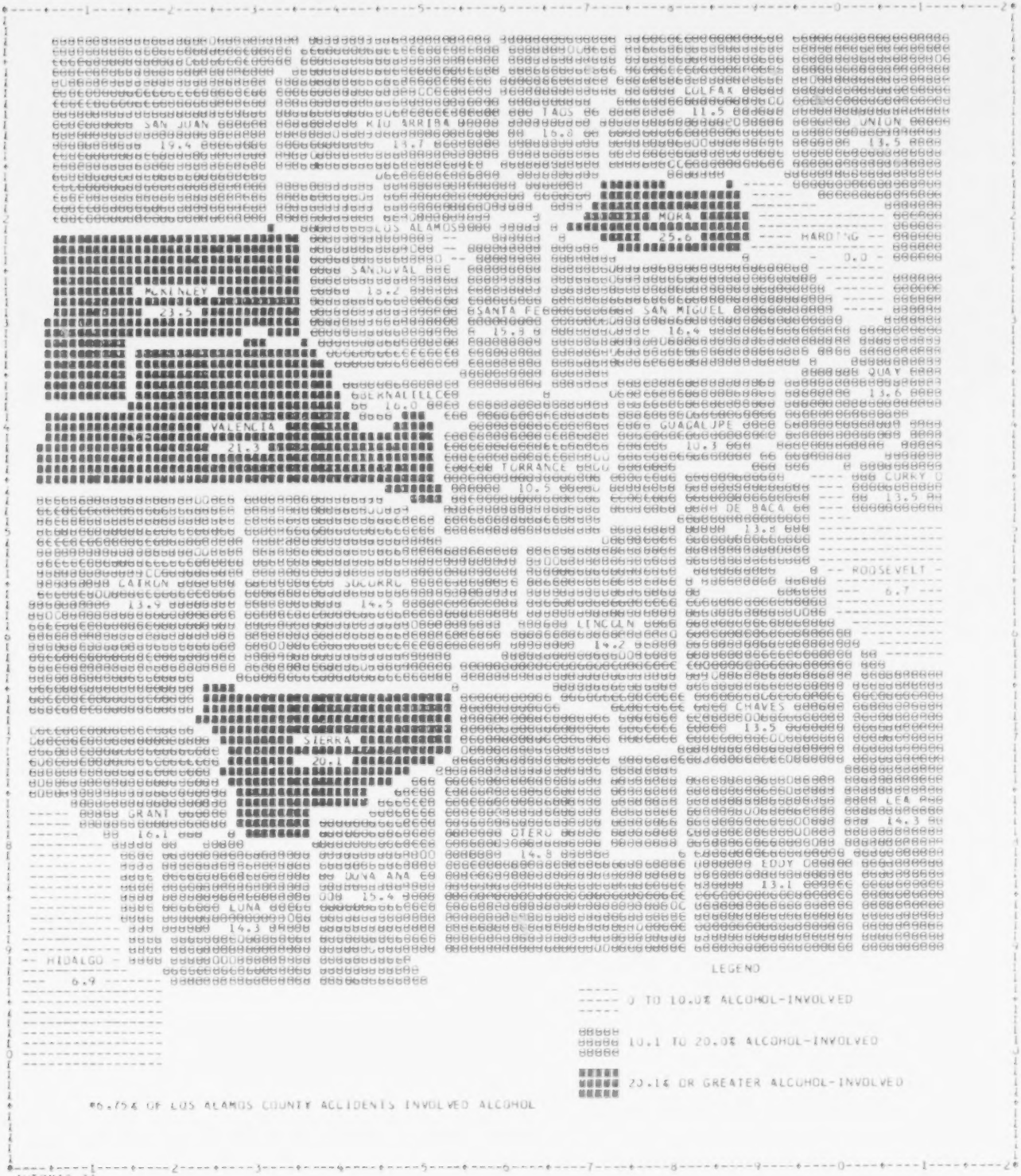
11.2 New Mexico alcohol-involved accidents by hour of the day, 1980

11.3 New Mexico DWI drivers in accidents by age and sex, 1980

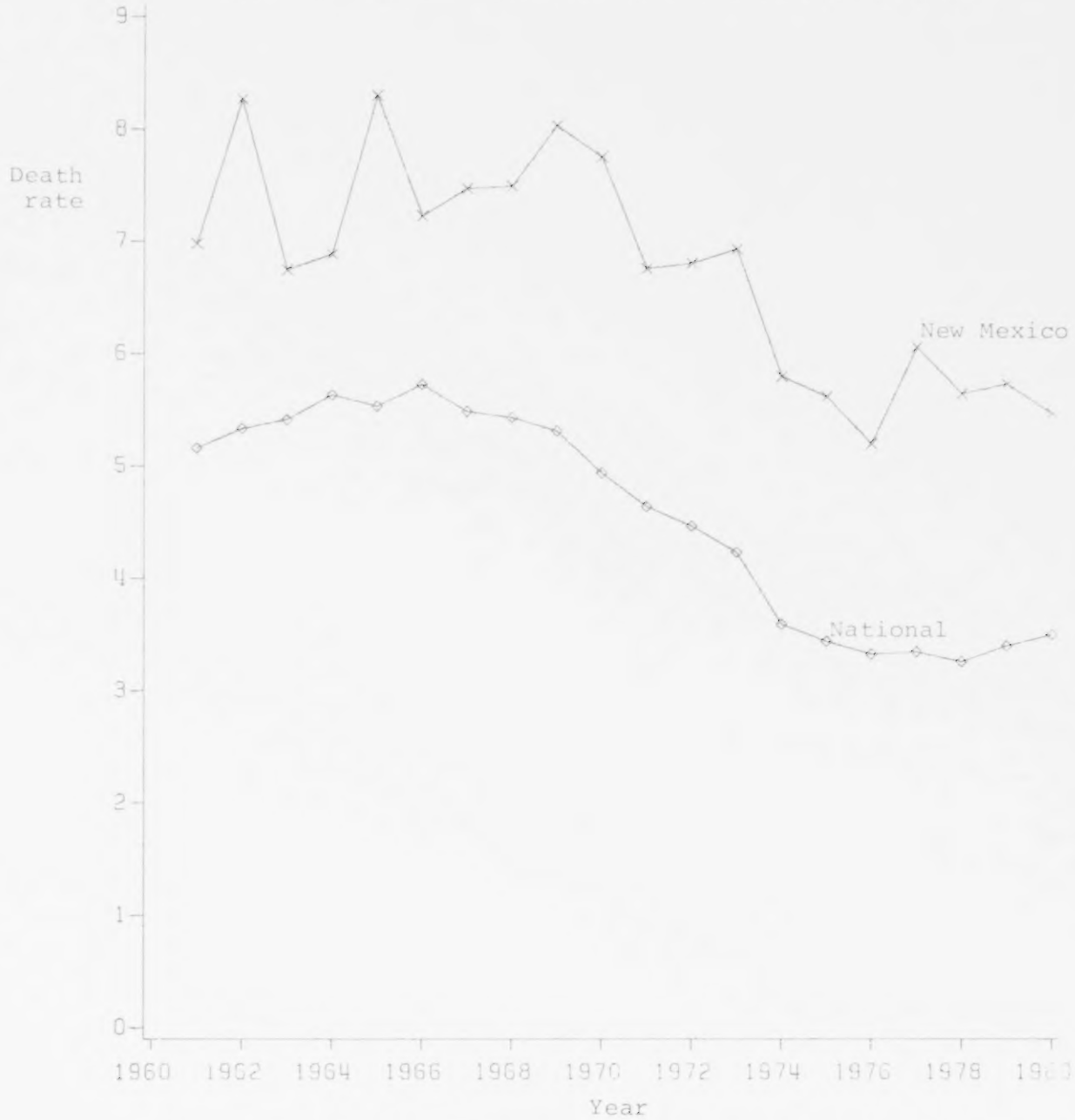
	Total	Male	Female
Under 15	52	42	10
15-19	1,263	1,094	169
20-24	1,910	1,661	249
25-29	1,335	1,167	168
30-34	872	754	118
35-39	556	469	87
40-44	448	384	64
45-49	330	286	44
50-54	266	248	18
55-59	227	184	43
60-64	144	129	15
65 & over	130	116	14
Total	7,533	6,534	999



11.4 Percent alcohol-involved accidents in county, 1980



12.1 New Mexico and national death rates, 1961-1980



(Rates are deaths per hundred million vehicle miles).

Glossary

Accident involvement - a vehicle in an accident. Often several vehicles are involved in one accident, so involvement counts are higher than accident counts.

Local resident - a person whose residence lies within a 25 mile radius around the accident site.

MVM - an abbreviation for million vehicle miles.

Other non-collision - an accident involving a moving motor vehicle that is not an overturn or a collision. Example: falling from a motor vehicle.

Other vehicle - an accident involving two or more motor vehicles on one road or at an intersection.

Traffic accident - an accident involving one or more motor vehicles in motion.

Vehicle mile - a mile driven by a motor vehicle. This is a common unit used to measure traffic activity.

For more detailed information, see the Manual on Classification of Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents, Third Edition, 1976, available from the National Safety Council, 444 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, 60611.

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New Mexico
Traffic Accident Data
1981

New Mexico Transportation Department
Motor Vehicle Division
Traffic Safety Bureau

April, 1982

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INTRODUCTION

This report reviews data about traffic accidents in New Mexico from January through December, 1981, and provides some comparisons of the 1981 experience with previous years and with national accident rates. Accident occurrences are characterized in many different ways. Tables for those who seek reference information are accompanied by simple graphic illustrations of the same data for others who desire only an impressionistic understanding of the material. Maps are provided where geographic perspective is useful.

These data are gathered from traffic accident reports completed by the hundreds of police officers across the state, to whom a great debt is owed. This body of data was compiled in Santa Fe by the New Mexico State Police Traffic Accident Records Center, which provided it to the Division of Government Research at the University of New Mexico. The information was reprocessed there into a form well-suited to analysis by the computer programs which generated this report.

These statistics cover only reported motor vehicle accidents on public roadways which involved death, personal injury, or $100 or more in property damage according to the investigating officer's judgment. No account is kept of unreported accidents or accidents on private property.

Because accidents are both common and random, data are occasionally incomplete or imprecise. Major advances in data integrity have been achieved in recent years in New Mexico. Nevertheless, minor discrepancies between table totals occur in a few places due to missing information.

Requests for further information or additional copies of this report should be addressed to:

Traffic Safety Bureau
Motor Vehicle Division
Transportation Department
State of New Mexico
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DEFINITIONS

Some special terms are used throughout this report. The following list is provided to help clarify the terms.

GENERAL TERMS

1. Vehicle Miles - the number of miles traveled by a motor vehicle. This is a common unit used to measure traffic activity and rates.

2. Local Resident - a person whose residence is within a 25 mile radius of the accident site.

3. Traffic Accident - an accident involving one or more motor vehicles.

4. Fatal - designates an accident where one or more persons were killed.

5. Injury - designates an accident where one or more persons were injured.

6. Property Damage Only - designates an accident involving no injuries.

7. Killed - the number of persons killed in an accident. The term is also referred to as fatalities.

8. Injured - the number of persons injured in an accident.

9. Urban - an area with a population of 2,500 or more.

10. Rural - an area with a population of less than 2,500.

ACCIDENT CLASSES

1. Collision - accidents are broken into categories based on the first object the vehicle collided with.

   a. Fixed Object - fixed objects are any objects that cannot be moved such as a building, sign, or fence.

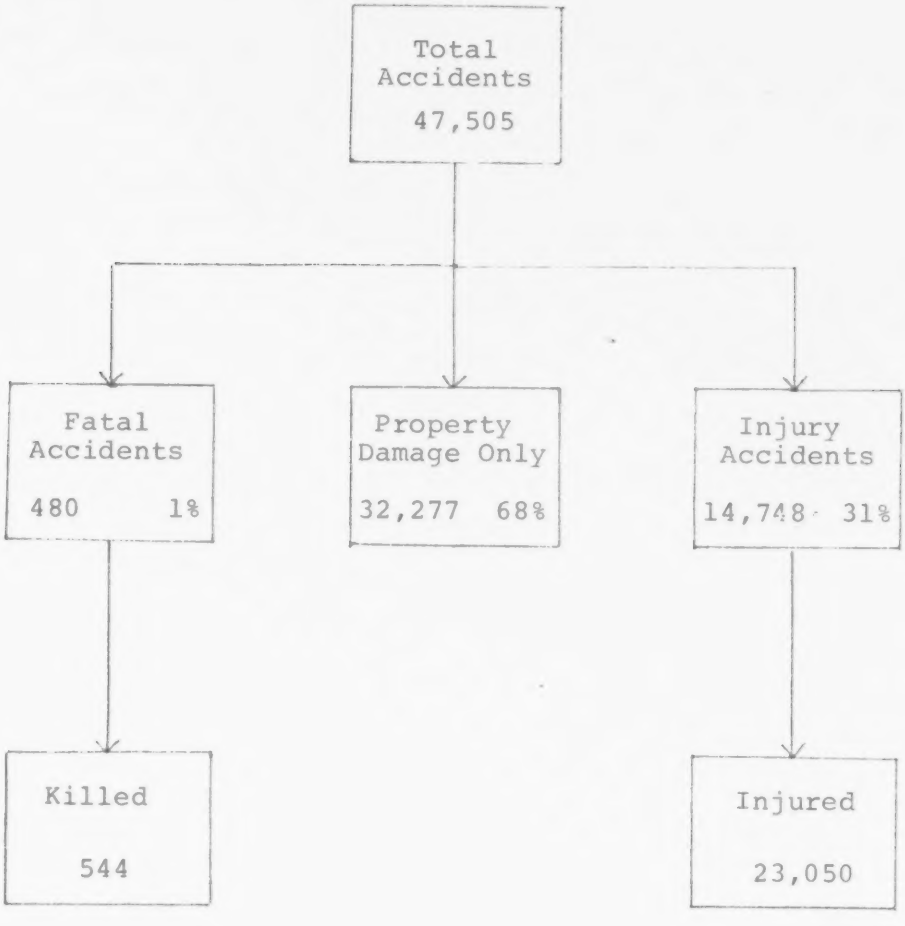
   b. Other Object - an object that is movable or moving, but not fixed.

2. Non-Collision

   a. Overturn - an accident where the vehicle overturned for any reason without a preceding incident.

   b. Other Non-Collision - an accident where the vehicle does not overturn or collide with any other vehicle or object.

1.1 New Mexico accidents by severity, 1981



In 1981....

a traffic accident occurred every 11 minutes.

one person was injured in traffic every 23 minutes.

one person was killed in traffic every 16 hours.

1.2 New Mexico accident facts

... 544 people died in 1981 New Mexico traffic accidents (table 1.3)

... Twice as many fatal accidents occurred in July as in January (table 2.1)

... Fridays at 5 PM is the least safe time to drive in urban areas (table 2.5)

... 78% of New Mexico's accidents happened in urban areas (table 3.1)

... 32% of New Mexico's accidents occurred in Bernalillo County (table 3.2)

... NM 22 in Santa Fe contains New Mexico's most dangerous stretch of highway (table 3.8)

... Montgomery at San Mateo in Albuquerque is New Mexico's worst intersection.

... 90% of New Mexico's accidents happened in clear weather.

... 57% of New Mexico's fatal accidents happened at night.

... 67% of drivers in accidents were male (table 6.1)

... 60% of drivers in accidents lived within 25 miles of the accident site (table 6.2)

... Out-of-state drivers constituted 7% of accident involvements (table 6.2)

... 8 licensed drivers in 100 were involved in accidents (table 6.4)

... 46 New Mexicans died in motorcycle accidents (table 10.1)

... 76% of those who died in motorcycle accidents wore no helmet (table 10.2)

... 650 pedestrians were in accidents (table 8.3)

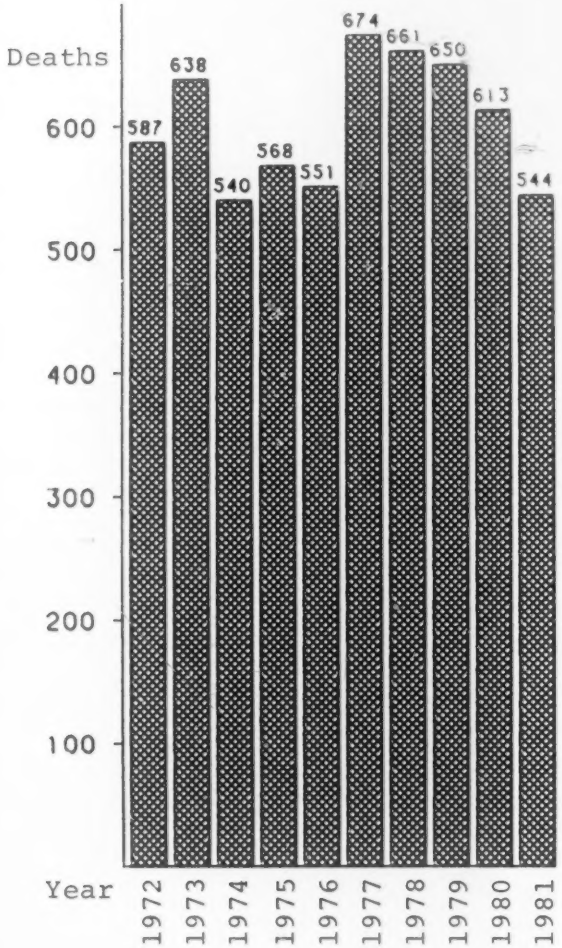
... 42% of alcohol involved accidents happen on Friday and Saturday (table 9.2)

1.3 New Mexico Roadway Statistics, 1972 to 1981

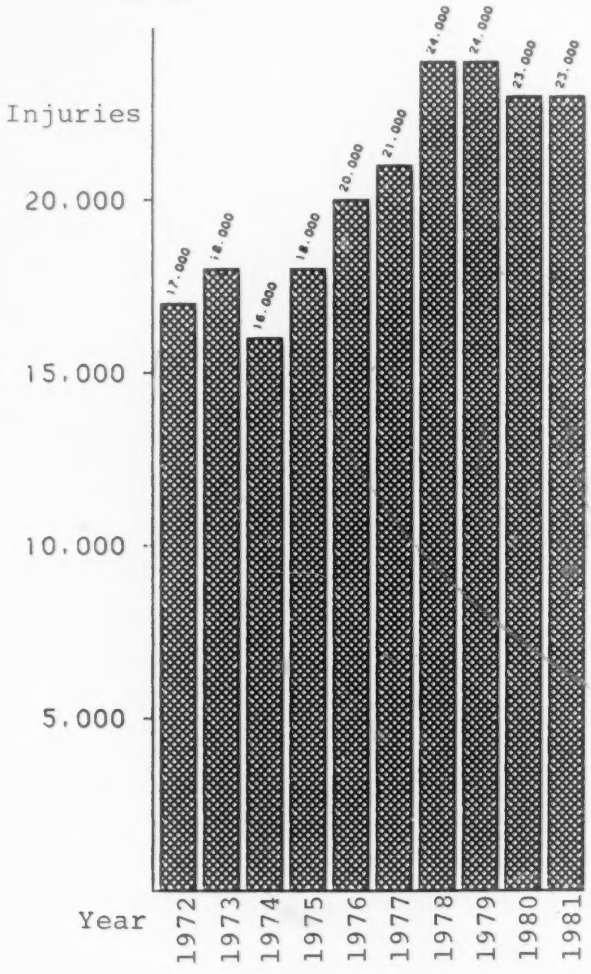
Calendar Year	New Mexico				Death rate	
	Motor Vehicle Registration	Mvm traveled	Traffic Fatalities	Traffic Injuries	New Mexico	United States
1981	1,219,576	11,448	544	23,000	4.7	3.3*
1980	1,185,295	11,156	613	23,000	5.5	3.5*
1979	1,145,083	11,333	650	24,000	5.7	3.5*
1978	1,096,939	11,507	661	24,000	5.6	3.4
1977	1,002,008	11,112	674	21,000	6.1	3.4
1976	976,002	10,524	552	20,000	5.3	3.3
1975	915,852	9,921	568	18,000	5.8	3.4
1974	867,206	9,438	540	16,000	5.7	3.5
1973	832,450	9,468	638	18,000	6.7	4.1
1972	798,459	8,626	587	17,000	6.6	4.3

*estimated death rate

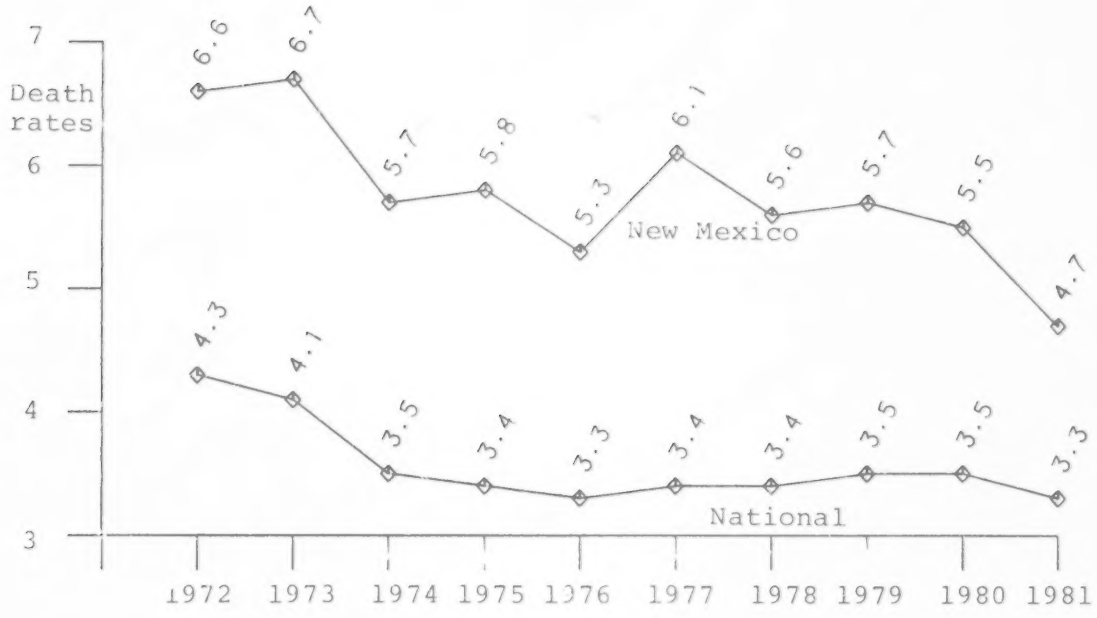
1.4 New Mexico accident deaths by year



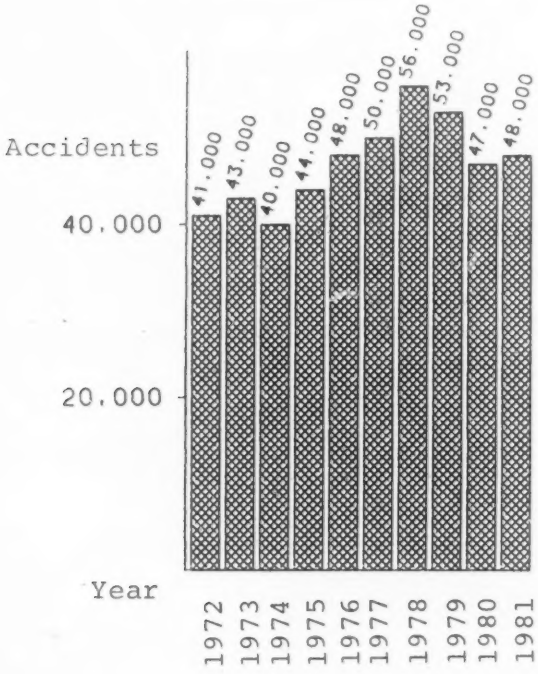
1.5 New Mexico accident injuries by year



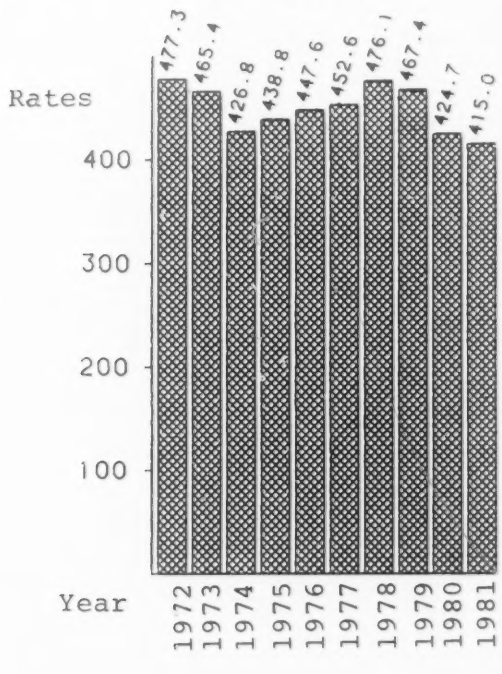
1.6 New Mexico and national death rates, 1972-1981



1.7 New Mexico accidents by year

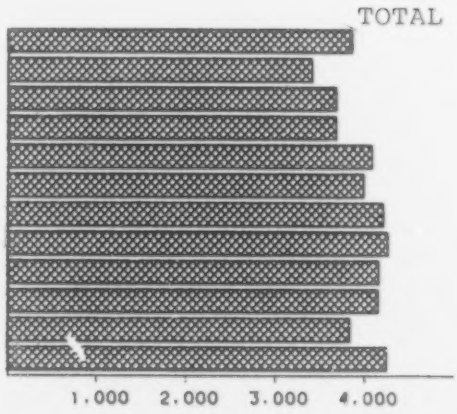


1.8 New Mexico's accident rates by year



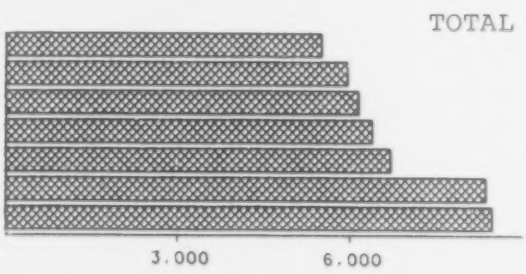
2.1 New Mexico accidents by month, 1981

Month	Total	Percent	Fatal	Percent
January	3,853	8.1	26	5.4
February	3,407	7.2	32	6.7
March	3,677	7.7	20	4.2
April	3,675	7.7	39	8.1
May	4,078	8.6	53	11.0
June	3,984	8.4	45	9.4
July	4,203	8.8	53	11.0
August	4,257	9.0	58	12.1
September	4,154	8.7	47	9.8
October	4,147	8.7	38	7.9
November	3,831	8.1	34	7.1
December	4,239	8.9	35	7.3
Total	47,505	100.0	480	100.0

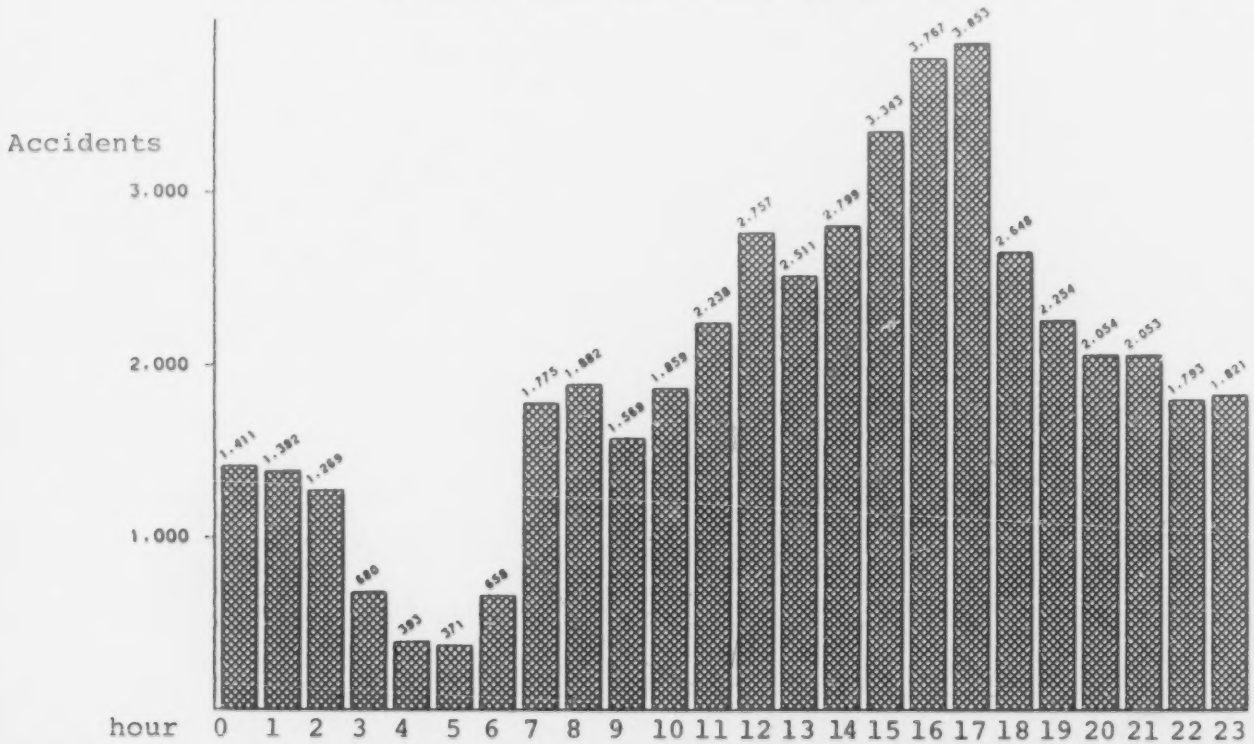


2.2 New Mexico accidents by day of the week, 1981

Day	Total	Percent	Fatal	Percent
Sunday	5,502	11.6	89	18.5
Monday	5,950	12.5	42	8.8
Tuesday	6,146	12.9	45	9.4
Wednesday	6,382	13.4	51	10.6
Thursday	6,705	14.1	72	15.0
Friday	8,354	17.6	76	15.8
Saturday	8,466	17.8	105	21.9
Total	47,505	100.0	480	100.0



2.3 New Mexico accidents by hour of the day, 1981



2.4 New Mexico accidents during holiday periods, 1978 to 1981

Holiday	Total Hours	Beginning (6 p.m.)	Ending (midnight)	Accidents Total	Fatal	Injury	Persons Killed	Injured
Easter								
1978	54	3/24	3/26	373	5	122	5	204
1979	54	4/13	4/15	384	7	125	7	198
1980	54	4/4	4/6	315	5	99	6	173
1981	54	4/17	4/19	314	2	97	2	165
Memorial Day								
1978	78	5/26	5/29	493	7	156	8	266
1979	78	5/25	5/28	456	5	156	9	242
1980	78	5/23	5/26	452	8	158	14	238
1981	78	5/22	5/25	420	6	143	6	253
July 4th								
1978	102	6/30	7/4	651	7	203	8	321
1979	126	7/3	7/8	693	12	226	13	347
1980	78	7/3	7/6	445	12	163	12	264
1981	78	7/2	7/5	440	10	152	10	258
Labor Day								
1978	78	9/1	9/4	538	12	156	14	255
1979	78	8/31	9/3	489	9	153	10	248
1980	78	8/29	9/1	468	8	159	11	267
1981	78	9/4	9/7	449	4	145	4	256
Thanksgiving								
1978	102	11/22	11/26	616	9	182	9	313
1979	102	11/21	11/25	691	7	213	7	338
1980	102	11/27	12/1	481	6	128	6	213
1981	102	11/26	11/30	594	7	174	11	286
Christmas								
1978	102	12/21	12/25	716	9	179	9	305
1979	102	12/21	12/25	832	13	257	14	416
1980	126	12/23	12/28	653	5	202	6	343
1981	126	12/22	12/27	662	6	191	11	320
New Year's								
1978-1979	78	12/29	1/1/79	736	9	175	10	330
1979-1980	102	12/28	1/1/80	514	5	158	7	270
1980-1981	126	12/30	1/4/81	669	4	214	4	355
1981-1982	126	12/29	1/3/82	-	-	-	9	-

- represents data that were not available at printing time

2.5 New Mexico's seven worst hours of the week, 1981

Urban			Rural		
Day and time	Num.of acc.	% of total	Day and time	Num.of acc.	% of total
1. Friday 5 PM	639	1.7	1. Saturday 6 PM	137	1.3
2. Friday 4 PM	631	1.7	2. Friday 11 PM	131	1.2
3. Wednesday 5 PM	499	1.3	3. Saturday 7 PM	130	1.2
4. Thursday 4 PM	479	1.3	4. Saturday 2 AM	126	1.2
5. Thursday 5 PM	475	1.3	5. Saturday 5 PM	121	1.2
6. Friday 3 PM	475	1.3	6. Sunday 1 AM	120	1.1
7. Tuesday 4 PM	465	1.3	7. Saturday 11 PM	120	1.1

2.6 New Mexico fatalities by day, 1981

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3: 1
4: 2	5	6	7: 1	8: 1	9	10
11: 1	12	13: 1	14: 1	15	16: 1	17: 1
18	19: 1	20: 2	21: 2	22: 1	23: 2	24: 2
25: 2	26	27: 2	28	29: 2	30: 1	31

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2: 1	3: 1	4	5: 6	6: 2	7: 1
8: 1	9: 2	10	11: 1	12: 3	13: 1	14: 4
15: 4	16: 2	17	18	19	20: 3	21: 1
22	23: 1	24: 2	25	26	27: 2	28

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2: 1	3	4	5: 1	6	7: 1
8: 3	9	10: 1	11	12	13: 1	14: 3
15: 1	16	17	18	19: 1	20: 1	21
22: 1	23: 1	24: 1	25	26: 1	27	28: 2
29	30	31				

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1: 1	2	3	4
5: 3	6: 1	7: 1	8	9: 1	10: 1	11: 6
12: 2	13: 4	14	15: 3	16: 2	17: 2	18
19: 1	20	21: 2	22: 2	23: 1	24: 1	25: 2
26: 4	27: 1	28: 1	29: 1	30		

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2: 1
3: 4	4: 2	5	6: 3	7: 4	8: 1	9: 3
10: 4	11	12: 3	13	14: 2	15	16: 1
17: 2	18	19: 2	20	21: 1	22: 3	23: 3
24: 1	25: 1	26: 3	27: 2	28: 2	29: 4	30: 3
31						

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1: 1	2	3	4: 3	5: 1	6: 4
7: 5	8: 3	9: 1	10: 2	11: 3	12: 1	13: 1
14: 2	15	16: 1	17	18: 1	19	20: 1
21: 3	22: 1	23: 3	24: 2	25: 1	26: 3	27: 3
28: 3	29	30: 1				

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1: 1	2: 3	3: 3	4: 3
5: 3	6: 5	7	8	9: 2	10	11: 6
12: 4	13: 1	14: 2	15: 1	16: 2	17: 3	18: 2
19: 2	20: 1	21: 1	22: 3	23: 1	24: 4	25: 1
26: 1	27	28: 2	29: 1	30: 2	31: 1	

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1: 3
2: 1	3: 4	4: 2	5: 3	6: 3	7: 1	8: 2
9: 1	10: 1	11: 3	12: 1	13: 4	14: 2	15: 2
16: 4	17: 1	18: 4	19: 2	20: 1	21: 6	22: 3
23: 2	24: 1	25	26	27: 2	28: 5	29: 3
30: 1	31					

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1: 1	2: 1	3: 5	4: 4	5: 1
6: 2	7	8	9: 4	10: 3	11: 1	12: 4
13: 4	14: 1	15: 1	16: 1	17	18: 2	19: 4
20	21: 2	22	23	24	25: 1	26: 6
27: 3	28: 1	29	30: 3			

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1: 2	2: 2	3: 5
4: 1	5	6	7: 1	8	9: 2	10
11	12: 2	13	14: 4	15	16: 2	17: 3
18	19	20: 1	21: 1	22	23: 2	24: 1
25: 1	26: 2	27: 2	28	29: 2	30: 2	31: 3

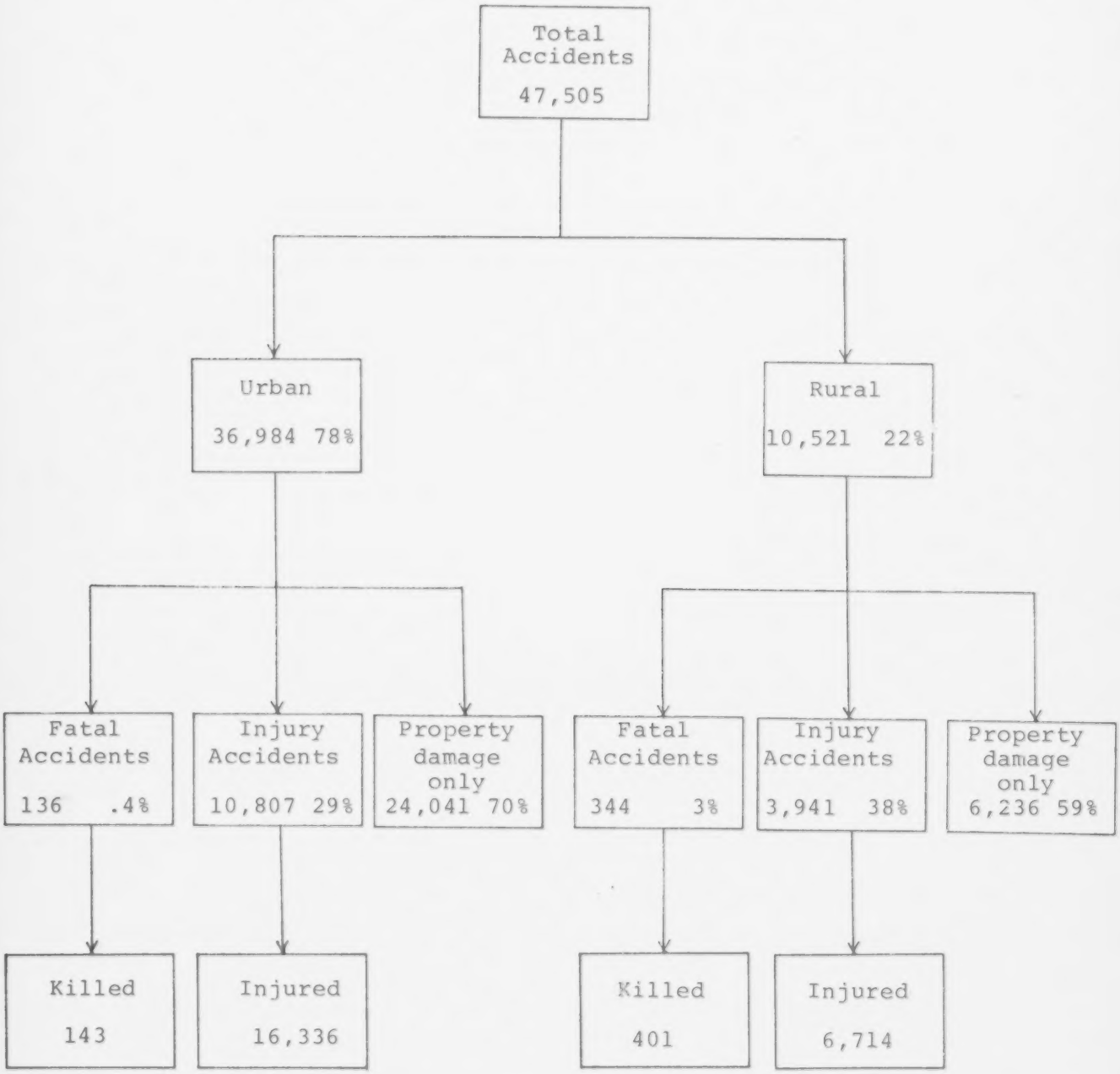
November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1: 2	2	3	4: 2	5: 1	6: 1	7
8: 4	9: 2	10: 1	11: 2	12: 1	13	14: 4
15: 2	16	17	18	19: 1	20	21: 3
22	23: 2	24	25: 2	26	27: 4	28: 6
29: 1	30					

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2: 1	3	4: 1	5: 4
6: 4	7	8	9	10: 1	11: 1	12: 4
13: 1	14	15	16: 1	17: 1	18: 1	19: 1
20: 6	21: 2	22: 1	23: 1	24: 4	25: 2	26: 3
27	28: 2	29	30	31: 3		

3.1 New Mexico accidents by road system, 1981

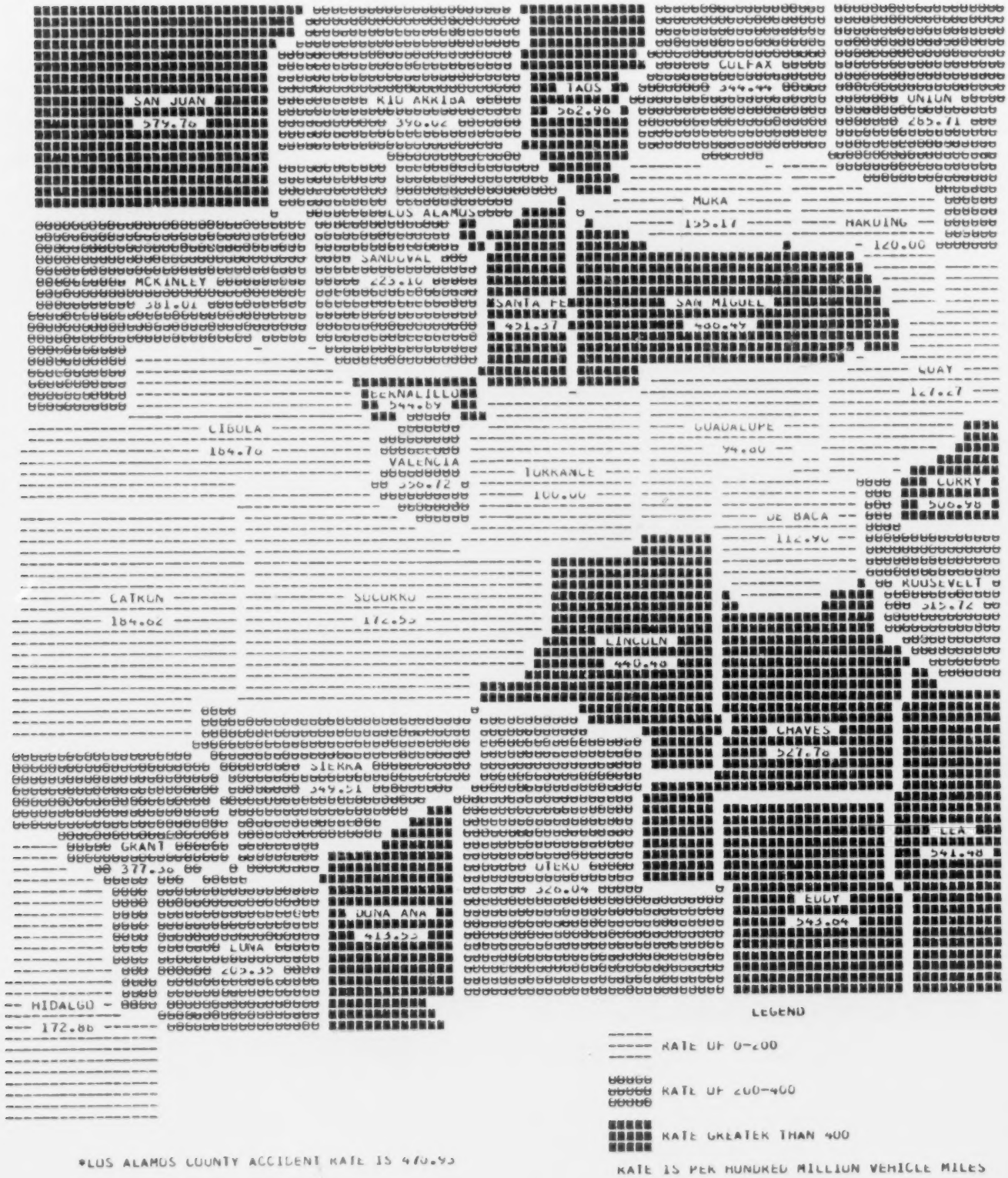


3.2 New Mexico accidents by county, 1981

County	Accidents				People		Rates		100 Mvm
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage	Killed	Injured	Accident rate	Death rate	
Bernalillo	15,344	64	5,134	10,146	67	7,765	544.89	2.38	28.16
Catron	96	1	31	64	1	51	184.62	1.92	0.52
Chaves	1,995	14	652	1,329	16	991	527.78	4.23	3.78
Cibola	885	21	271	593	25	414	184.76	5.22	4.79
Colfax	558	6	124	428	7	191	344.44	4.32	1.62
Curry	1,308	7	321	980	7	502	506.98	2.71	2.58
De Baca	70	0	27	43	0	35	112.90	0.00	0.62
Dona Ana	3,056	31	983	2,042	38	1,556	413.53	5.14	7.39
Eddy	1,881	11	524	1,346	11	774	543.64	3.18	3.46
Grant	951	12	257	682	15	382	377.38	5.95	2.52
Guadalupe	237	8	88	141	8	153	94.80	3.20	2.50
Harding	18	0	4	14	0	6	120.00	0.00	0.15
Hidalgo	204	4	54	146	5	74	172.88	4.24	1.18
Lea	2,480	25	694	1,761	29	1,070	541.48	6.33	4.58
Lincoln	740	14	251	475	16	383	440.48	9.52	1.68
Los Alamos	405	1	107	297	1	140	470.93	1.16	0.86
Luna	499	9	136	354	10	242	205.35	4.12	2.43
McKinley	2,328	54	588	1,686	61	1,051	381.01	9.98	6.11
Mora	90	2	37	51	3	61	155.17	5.17	0.58
Otero	1,177	16	324	837	25	522	326.04	6.93	3.61
Quay	336	6	105	225	7	157	127.27	2.65	2.64
Rio Arriba	994	18	369	607	22	671	396.02	8.76	2.51
Roosevelt	502	6	100	396	6	149	315.72	3.77	1.59
Sandoval	763	18	268	477	23	437	223.10	6.73	3.42
San Juan	3,867	49	1,152	2,666	50	1,919	579.76	7.50	6.67
San Miguel	900	10	224	666	12	360	486.49	6.49	1.85
Santa Fe	2,961	26	1,052	1,883	27	1,631	451.37	4.12	6.56
Sierra	360	5	101	254	5	152	349.51	4.85	1.03
Socorro	402	11	106	285	13	156	172.53	5.58	2.33
Taos	912	14	272	626	16	407	562.96	9.88	1.62
Torrance	229	8	87	134	9	145	100.00	3.93	2.29
Union	240	0	70	170	0	102	285.71	0.00	0.84
Valencia	717	9	235	473	9	401	356.72	4.48	2.01
Total	47,505	480	14,748	32,277	544	23,050	414.96	4.75	114.48

In June, 1981, Valencia County was subdivided to form Cibola County and the present Valencia County. For the purposes of this report all accidents in the year are assigned according to county boundaries at the end of the year. For a retrospective view of accidents in Cibola County and the present Valencia County, see tables 12.1 and 12.2 on page 27.

3.3 New Mexico accident rates by county, 1981



LEGEND

RATE OF 0-200

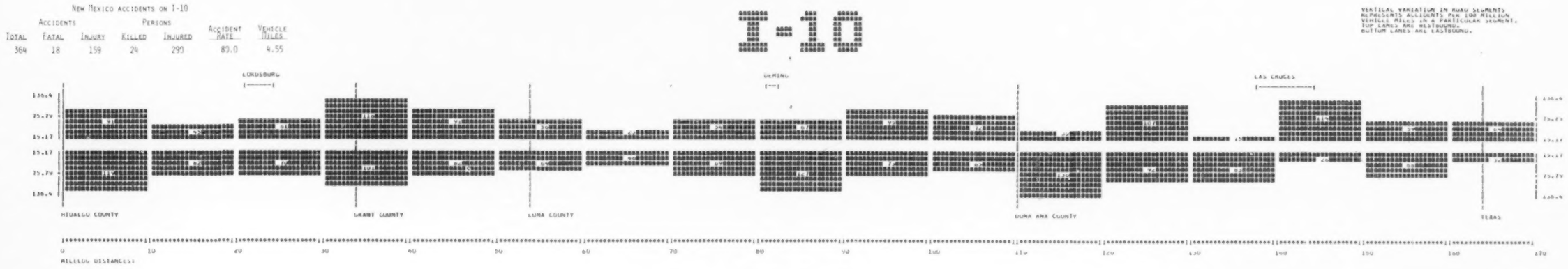
RATE OF 200-400

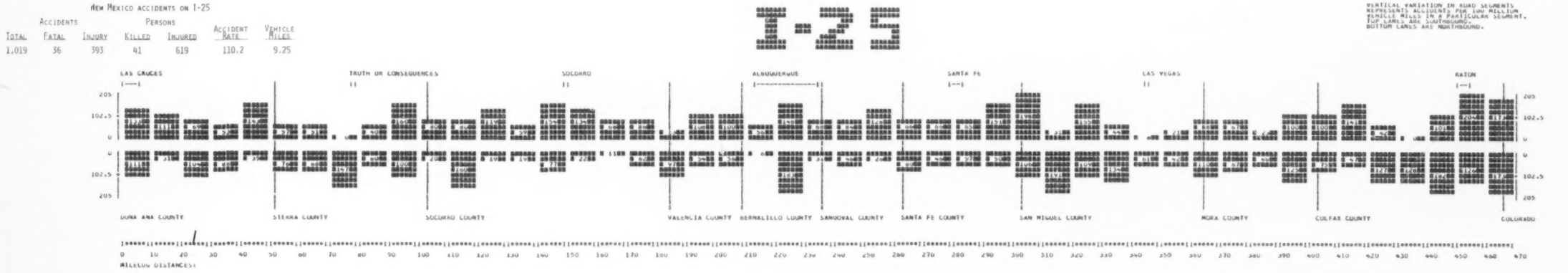
RATE GREATER THAN 400

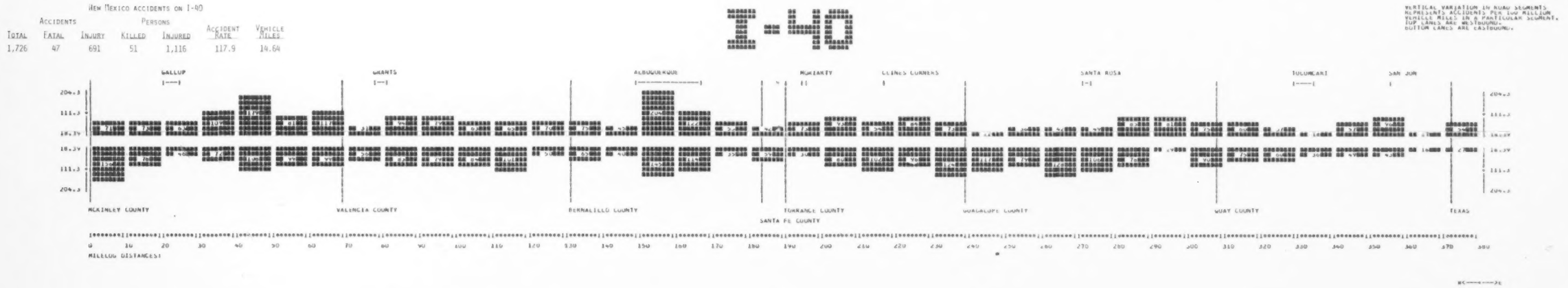
RATE IS PER HUNDRED MILLION VEHICLE MILES

*LOS ALAMOS COUNTY ACCIDENT RATE IS 470.93

3.4 New Mexico interstate highway accident rates, 1981







3.5 New Mexico accidents in urban areas, 1981
(5,000 or more people in 1980 Census)

	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Alamogordo	721	1	160	560	1	227
Albuquerque	15,002	53	4,981	9,968	55	7,515
Artesia	483	0	99	384	0	145
Aztec	160	2	36	122	2	60
Belen	240	0	53	187	0	90
Carlsbad	957	3	264	690	3	382
Clovis	1,153	4	263	886	4	402
Deming	335	2	63	270	2	99
Espanola	429	1	156	272	1	263
Farmington	2,353	5	680	1,668	5	1,057
Gallup	1,391	8	272	1,111	8	432
Grants	384	3	90	291	4	138
Hobbs	1,500	5	402	1,093	5	578
Las Cruces	2,164	11	639	1,514	12	990
Las Vegas	695	3	134	558	3	192
Los Alamos	393	0	104	289	0	135
Lovington	368	0	89	279	0	134
Portales	366	0	54	312	0	76
Raton	365	1	65	299	2	94
Rio Rancho	139	1	47	91	1	77
Roswell	1,586	4	533	1,049	4	777
Santa Fe	2,117	5	730	1,382	5	1,123
Silver City	514	3	95	416	3	137
Socorro	242	1	44	197	1	62
Truth or Consequences	194	0	42	152	0	53
Tucumcari	182	0	40	142	0	63

3.6 New Mexico accidents in incorporated areas, 1981
(Less than 5,000 people in 1980 Census)

	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Anthony	34	0	12	22	0	25
Bayard	37	0	4	33	0	4
Bernalillo	74	1	13	60	1	20
Bloomfield	145	0	31	114	0	55
Bosque Farms	57	1	21	35	1	30
Capitan	16	0	5	11	0	8
Carrizozo	22	0	6	16	0	8
Central	16	0	5	11	0	5
Chama	18	0	3	15	0	3
Cimarron	12	0	2	10	0	2
Clayton	154	0	34	120	0	48
Columbus	4	0	2	2	0	2
Corona	2	0	0	2	0	0
Corrales	62	0	25	37	0	38
Cuba	37	1	5	31	1	5
Dexter	1	0	0	1	0	0
Dora	4	0	0	4	0	0
Elida	5	0	2	3	0	3
Encino	3	0	1	2	0	3
Estancia	22	0	5	17	0	7
Eunice	72	0	15	57	0	20
Fort Sumner	31	0	6	25	0	8
Grenville	2	0	1	1	0	1
Hagerman	15	0	1	14	0	3
Hatch	33	0	11	22	0	12
Hope	1	0	1	0	0	1
Hurley	9	0	3	6	0	6
Jal	32	0	13	19	0	20
Jemez Springs	10	0	3	7	0	3
Lake Arthur	2	0	0	2	0	0
La Mesilla	35	0	6	29	0	9
Logan	12	0	5	7	0	7
Lordsburg	84	0	21	63	0	33
Los Lunas	107	1	37	69	1	56
Loving	4	0	0	4	0	0
Magdalena	1	0	0	1	0	0
Melrose	7	0	0	7	0	0
Milan	80	0	14	66	0	19
Moriarty	23	0	9	14	0	14
Mosquero	1	0	1	0	0	1
Mountainair	6	0	2	4	0	2
Pecos	7	1	1	5	1	4
Questa	29	2	12	15	2	19
Red River	32	0	12	20	0	14
Reserve	4	0	1	3	0	1
Roy	3	0	0	3	0	0
Ruidoso	449	2	133	314	2	203
Ruidoso Downs	29	2	9	18	3	12
San Jon	4	0	1	3	0	1
San Ysidro	14	1	4	9	2	9
Santa Rosa	73	2	13	58	2	22
Shiprock	120	5	38	77	5	84
Springer	9	0	2	7	0	3
Taos	343	0	82	261	0	121
Tatum	36	1	10	25	1	14
Texico	22	0	8	14	0	16
Tijeras	5	0	1	4	0	1
Tularosa	53	0	12	41	0	16
Vaughn	13	0	6	7	0	11
Virden	1	0	0	1	0	0
Wagon Mound	8	0	1	7	0	2
Willard	3	0	0	3	0	0
Williamsburg	2	0	1	1	0	1

3.7 New Mexico accidents in pueblos and reservations, 1981

	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Acoma	45	1	15	29	1	21
Alamo Navajo	1	1	0	0	1	0
Cochiti	8	1	3	4	1	3
Isleta	29	1	16	12	1	25
Jemez	18	2	4	12	3	10
Jicarilla Apache	40	3	14	23	3	32
Laguna	156	6	67	83	8	98
Mescalero Apache	75	5	26	44	11	53
Nambe	5	0	2	3	0	4
Navajo	273	21	94	158	27	213
Picuris	26	1	10	15	1	14
Pojoaque	68	3	28	37	3	58
Ramah Navajo	5	0	3	2	0	3
Sandia	27	2	11	14	2	19
San Felipe	26	1	14	11	1	24
San Ildefonso	18	0	8	10	0	9
San Juan	43	2	21	20	3	47
Santa Ana	14	0	6	8	0	6
Santa Clara	95	0	36	59	0	62
Santo Domingo	19	1	10	8	2	17
Taos Pueblo	2	0	1	1	0	3
Tesuque	34	1	11	22	2	16
Zia	18	0	8	10	0	12
Zuni	47	0	15	32	0	30

3.8 New Mexico's seven least safe rural highway segments, 1981

Highway	Mile	County	Accidents				Acc rate	Thousand veh miles
			Total	Fatal	Injury	Alcohol		
1. NM22	20 TO 30	Santa Fe	28	1	12	10	1383.0	2,025
2. NM475	0 TO 10	Santa Fe	20	0	11	7	1207.7	1,656
3. NM76	0 TO 10	Santa Fe	94	1	34	31	732.1	12,839
4. US85	0 TO 10	Dona Ana	29	0	11	2	663.2	4,373
5. NM14	110 TO 120	Bernalillo	28	1	14	5	529.1	5,293
6. US82	10 TO 20	Otero	32	0	14	6	434.6	7,364
7. NM47	20 TO 30	Valencia	34	0	15	6	417.0	8,153

(Rate is accidents per 100 million vehicle miles)

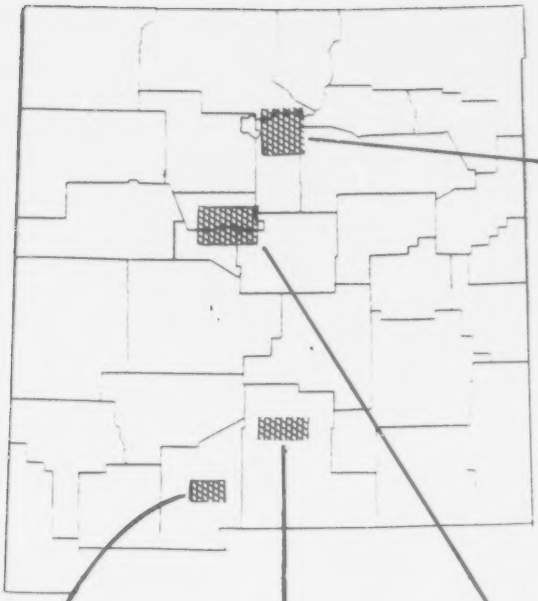
3.9 New Mexico's ten worst intersections, 1981

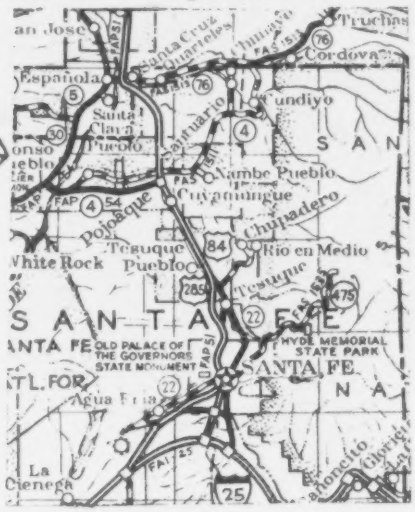
City	Intersection	Number of accidents		
		Total	Fatal	Injury
Albuquerque	Montgomery at San Mateo	93	0	32
Farmington	Butler at Main	93	0	25
Albuquerque	Indian School at Louisiana	80	0	35
Albuquerque	Montgomery at Wyoming	70	0	20
Farmington	Main at San Juan	63	0	18
Albuquerque	Eubank at Lomas	63	0	17
Albuquerque	Montgomery at I-25 East Frontage Rd	62	0	24
Albuquerque	Central at Louisiana	61	0	19
Las Cruces	El Paseo at Idaho	61	0	15
Albuquerque	Central at Rio Grande	60	0	17

Counts shown are for the period October, 1980, through September, 1981. New Mexico intersections with 30 or more accidents in three years were ranked by the total counts shown.

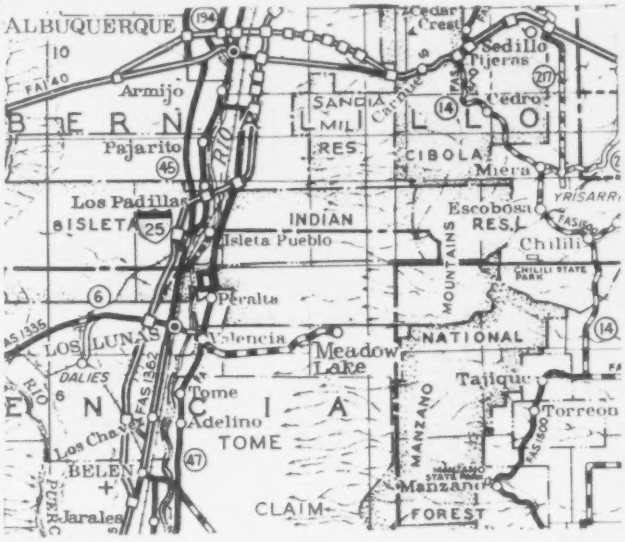
3.10 Map of New Mexico's worst highway segments, 1981

1. NM22 from La Cienega to Bishop's Lodge
2. NM475 from Bishop's Lodge to Hyde Memorial
3. NM76 from Espanola to NM4

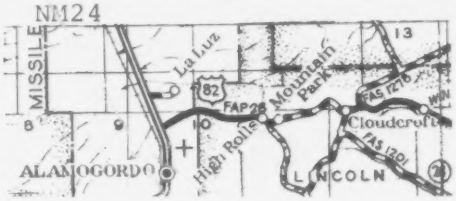




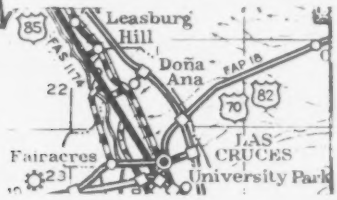
5. NM14 south of I-40
7. NM47 from NM6 to Bosque Farms



6. US82 from Haynes Canyon to NM24



4. US85 from NM292 to NM28



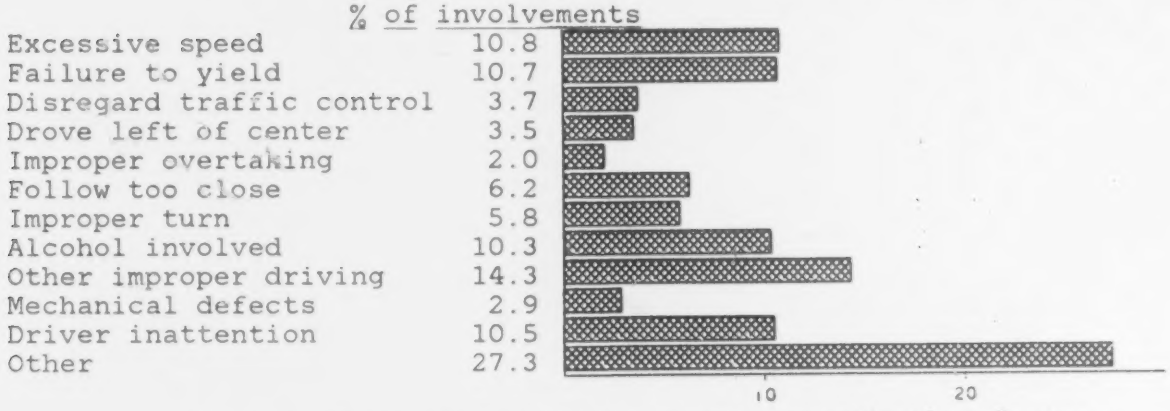
4.1 New Mexico accidents by class, 1981

	ACCIDENTS					PERSONS	
	Total	% of Total	Fatal	% of Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Other vehicle	29,122	61.30	134	27.92	9,029	169	15,219
Pedestrian	650	1.37	85	17.71	535	87	600
Fixed object	6,625	13.95	56	11.67	1,789	62	2,384
Veh. on other road	24	0.05	0	0	11	0	23
Parked vehicle	4,951	10.42	16	3.33	538	18	738
Overturn	3,928	8.27	173	36.04	2,029	191	3,097
Other non-collision	796	1.68	6	1.25	312	6	386
Pedalcyclist	392	0.83	5	1.04	320	5	339
Railroad train	22	0.05	3	0.63	10	4	14
Animal	770	1.62	1	0.21	109	1	156
Other object	218	0.46	1	0.21	64	1	87
Other	7	0.01	0	0	2	0	7
Total	47,505	100	480	100	14,748	544	23,050

4.2 New Mexico fixed object accidents, 1981

Object	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS			PERSONS	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Barricade	39	0	12	0	15
Bridge or pier	103	1	50	1	78
Building	211	1	56	1	73
Cattle guard	31	1	6	1	8
Culvert or drain	187	3	84	3	127
Embankment	419	8	170	10	245
Fence	1,752	5	305	5	407
Guard rail or post	408	10	159	11	211
Median or curb	385	2	104	2	128
Sign, pole, meter, hydrant	1,784	9	472	10	594
Tree	369	10	149	11	208
Other or unknown	937	6	222	7	290
Total	6,625	56	1,789	62	2,384

4.3 New Mexico accident contributing factors, 1981



(An involvement may have several contributing factors, so percentages may not sum to 100%)

4.4 New Mexico accidents by weather, 1981

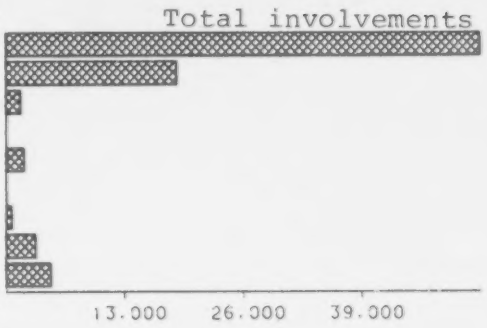
Weather Condition	Number of Accidents				Number of Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage	Killed	Injured
Clear	43,002	436	13,414	29,152	492	20,896
Rain	2,655	26	803	1,826	33	1,333
Snow/Sleet	764	3	189	572	3	312
Fog	156	2	45	109	3	64
Dust/Wind	549	6	193	350	6	286
Other	320	6	85	229	6	130
Total	47,446	479	14,729	32,238	543	23,021

4.5 New Mexico accidents by lighting, 1981

Light Condition	Number of Accidents				Number of Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage	Killed	Injured
Daylight	29,587	173	8,883	20,531	200	13,713
Dawn	398	5	132	261	5	198
Dusk	1,420	20	452	948	28	705
Dark,lighted	8,404	59	2,625	5,720	64	4,179
Dark,unlighted	7,478	216	2,624	4,638	239	4,201
Other,unknown	176	6	19	151	7	32
Total	47,463	479	14,735	32,249	543	23,028

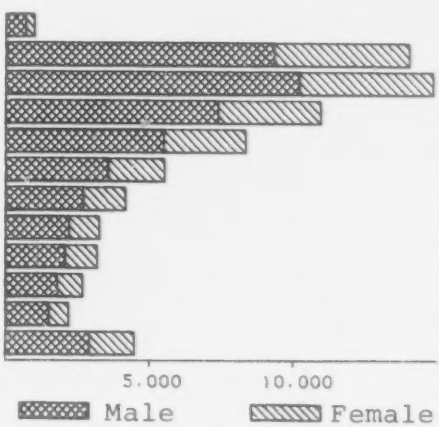
5.1 New Mexico accident involvements by vehicle type, 1981

Vehicle type	Total	Fatal	Injury
Passenger car	53,226	293	16,328
Pickup	18,737	173	5,260
Semi	1,670	66	518
Bus	363	1	73
Motorcycle	2,053	48	1,634
Pedalcyclist	391	4	324
Pedestrian	684	94	570
Van or 4WD	3,299	26	1,010
Other	4,970	49	953
Total	85,393	754	26,670



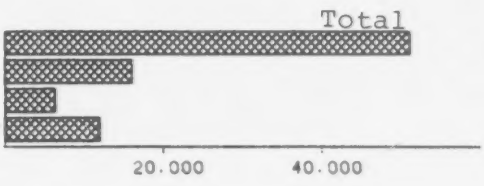
6.1 New Mexico accident driver age and sex, 1981

	Total	Male	Female
Under 15	986	690	296
15-19	14,027	9,329	4,698
20-24	14,857	10,214	4,643
25-29	10,967	7,396	3,571
30-34	8,347	5,505	2,842
35-39	5,528	3,585	1,943
40-44	4,174	2,710	1,464
45-49	3,265	2,203	1,062
50-54	3,189	2,080	1,109
55-59	2,684	1,805	879
60-64	2,192	1,513	679
65 & over	4,481	2,930	1,551
Total	74,697	49,960	24,737



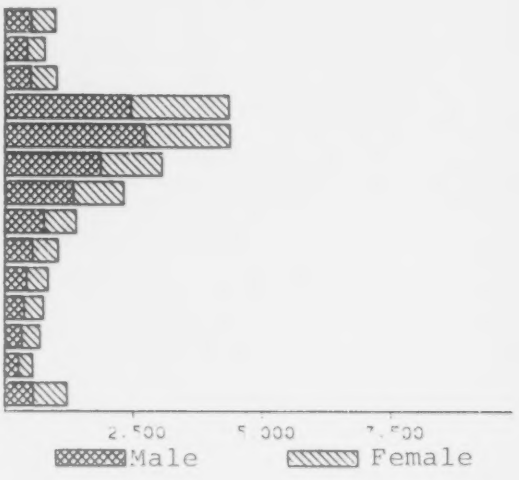
6.2 New Mexico accident driver residence, 1981

	Total	Fatal	Injury
Local	51,064	119	16,902
Elsewhere in NM	16,029	343	5,395
Outside NM	6,337	136	2,158
Unknown	11,963	156	2,215
	85,393	754	26,670



6.3 New Mexico accident occupant age and sex, 1981

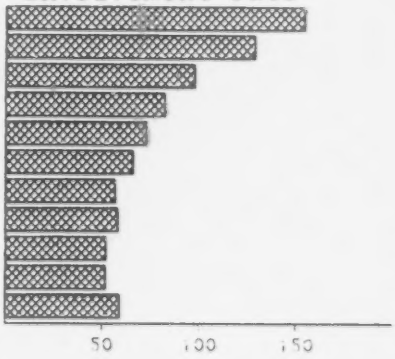
	Total	Male	Female
0-4	995	524	471
5-9	787	449	338
10-14	1,020	515	505
15-19	4,359	2,460	1,899
20-24	4,382	2,730	1,652
25-29	3,059	1,878	1,181
30-34	2,315	1,350	965
35-39	1,398	778	620
40-44	1,045	549	496
45-49	852	436	416
50-54	762	387	375
55-59	691	341	350
60-64	552	284	268
65 & over	1,219	562	657
Total	23,436	13,243	10,193



These counts are of persons killed or injured in accidents.

6.4 New Mexico accident involvement rates, 1981

Age	Driver involvements	July 81 drivers	Inv. per 1,000 drivers
15-19	14,027	89,780	156.24
20-24	14,857	121,247	122.53
25-29	10,967	118,134	92.84
30-34	8,347	108,842	76.69
35-39	5,528	79,459	69.57
40-44	4,174	65,997	63.25
45-49	3,265	59,012	55.33
50-54	3,189	56,222	56.72
55-59	2,684	52,531	51.09
60-64	2,192	44,039	49.77
65 & over	4,481	79,699	56.22
Total	73,711	874,962	84.24



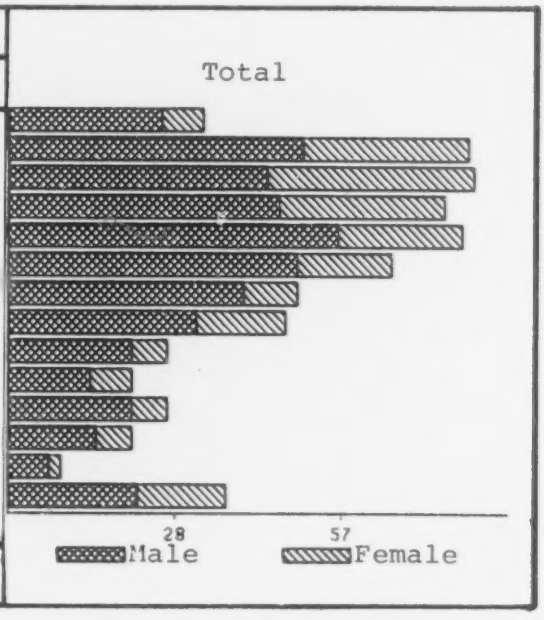
7.1 New Mexico accident seatbelt usage and injuries, 1981

	Belt worn		Belt not worn		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Killed	5	0.16	339	0.96	344	0.90
Incapacitating injury	104	3.31	2,830	8.04	2,934	7.65
Visible injury	397	12.62	6,190	17.59	6,587	17.18
Complaint of injury	925	29.41	8,604	24.44	9,529	24.85
Unhurt	1,714	54.50	17,235	48.97	18,949	49.42
Total	3,145	100.00	35,198	100.00	38,343	100.00

These are counts of occupants of passenger cars, pickups, vans, and four wheel drive vehicles in fatal and injury accidents. If all of these people had been wearing seatbelts, 61 persons rather than 344 would have been killed. (This figure is based on the above percent of seatbelt wearers killed.)

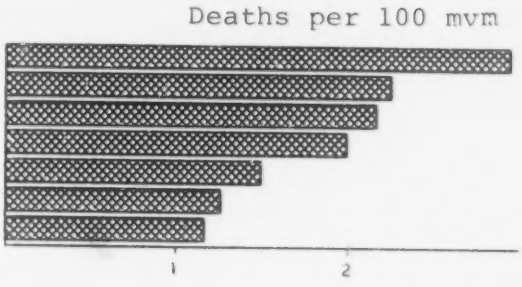
8.1 New Mexico pedestrians in accidents, 1981

Age	Total		Male		Female	
	Killed	Inj.	Killed	Inj.	Killed	Inj.
0-4	1	32	1	25	0	7
5-9	7	70	4	46	3	24
10-14	6	67	5	36	1	31
15-19	6	67	5	40	1	27
20-24	6	70	6	49	0	21
25-29	5	57	3	43	2	14
30-34	10	36	8	29	2	7
35-39	8	39	7	25	1	14
40-44	5	22	4	17	1	5
45-49	6	15	6	8	0	7
50-54	7	20	6	15	1	5
55-59	4	16	2	13	2	3
60-64	2	6	2	5	0	1
65 & over	9	28	5	17	4	11
Total	82	545	64	368	18	177

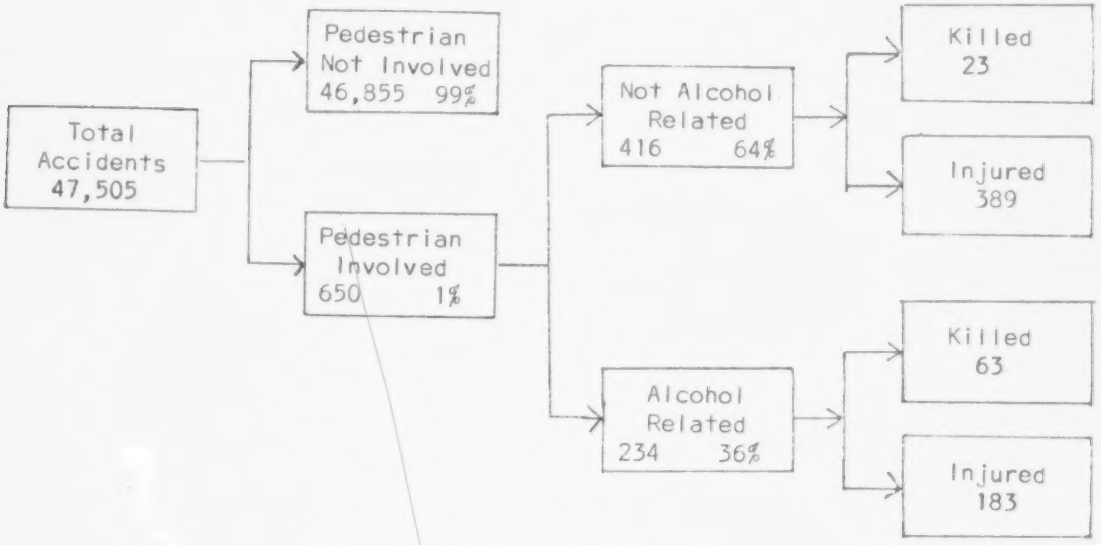


8.2 Seven worst counties by pedestrian death rate, 1981

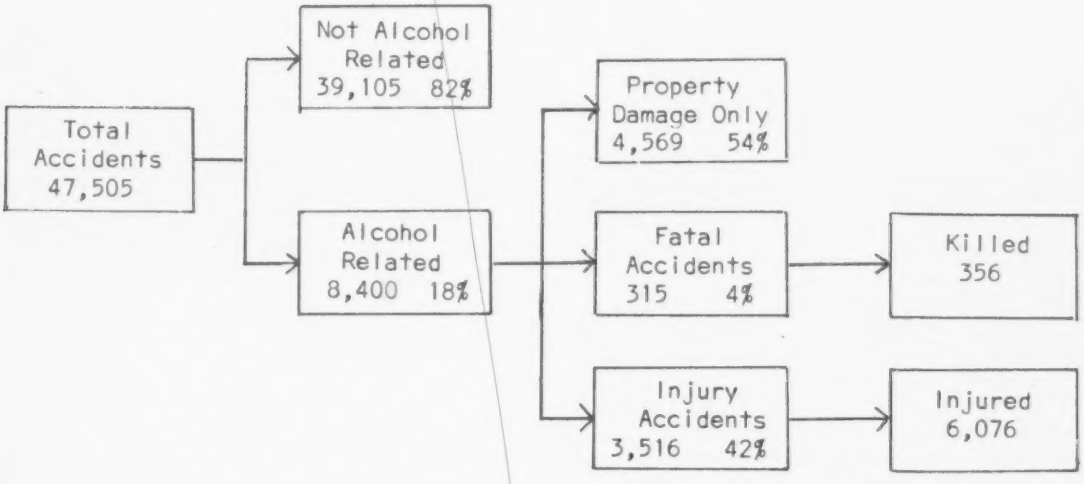
County	Pedestrians in accidents Total	Killed	Injured
McKinley	66	18	45
San Juan	68	15	49
San Miguel	22	4	18
Rio Arriba	9	5	4
Valencia	13	3	10
Roosevelt	6	2	4
Curry	17	3	14



8.3 New Mexico alcohol related pedestrian accidents, 1981

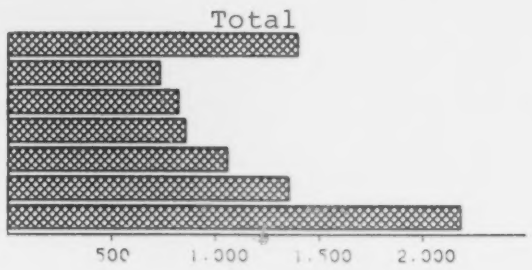


9.1 New Mexico accidents by alcohol involvement, 1981

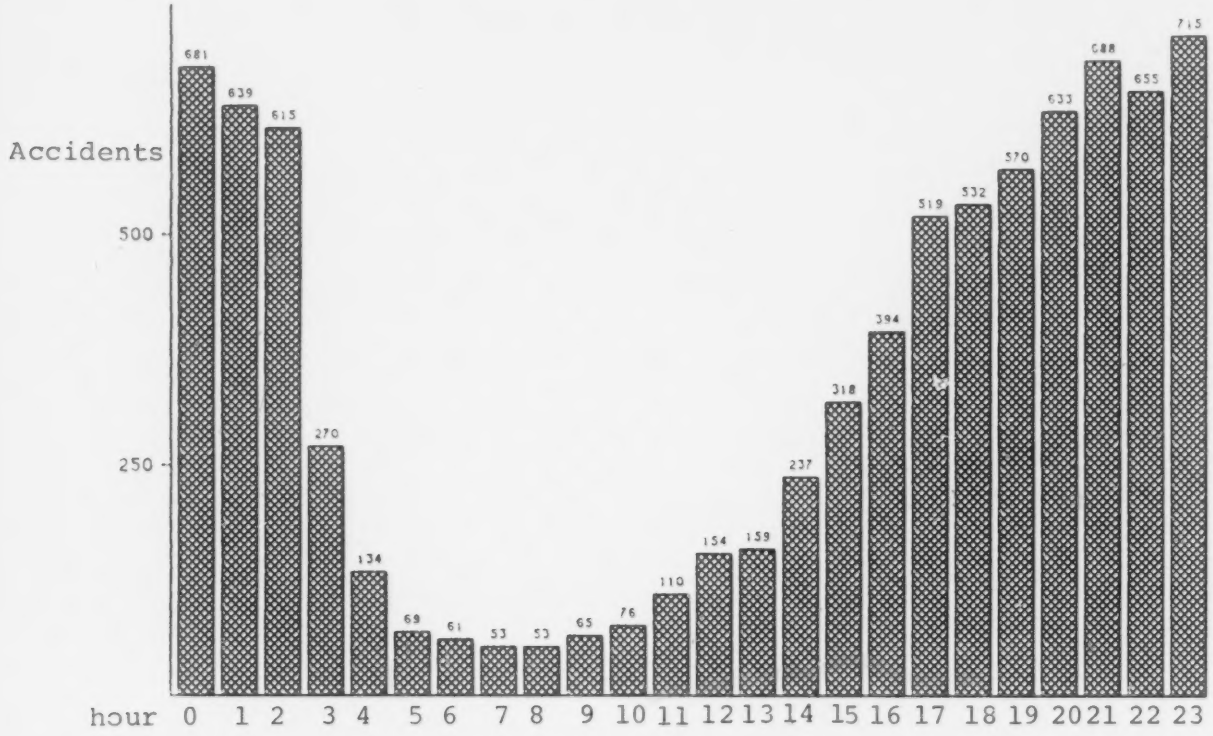


9.2 New Mexico alcohol related accidents by day of week, 1981

Day	Total	Fatal	Injury
Sunday	1,396	61	557
Monday	732	21	309
Tuesday	822	27	318
Wednesday	856	29	332
Thursday	1,058	39	461
Friday	1,354	47	585
Saturday	2,182	91	954
Total	8,400	315	3,516

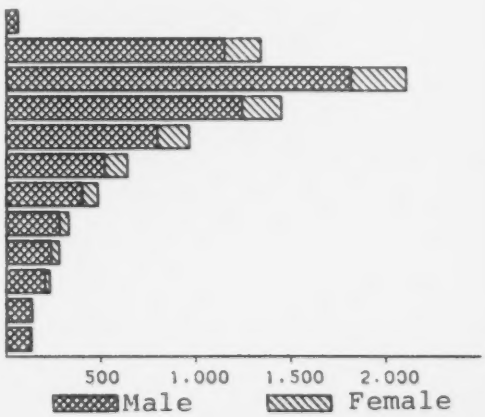


9.3 New Mexico alcohol related accidents by hour of the day, 1981

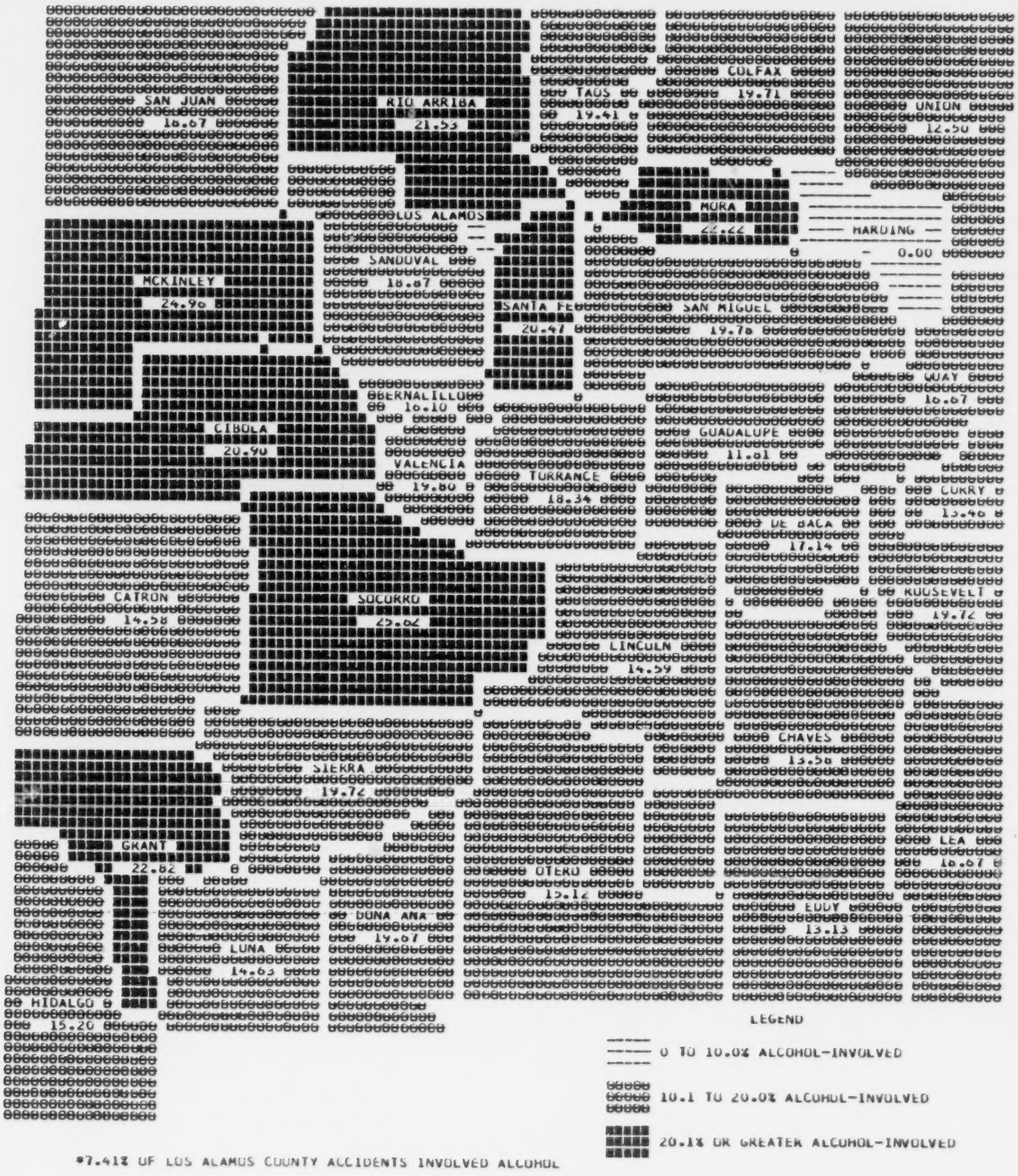


9.4 New Mexico DWI drivers in accidents by age and sex, 1981

	Total	Male	Female
Under 15	80	65	15
15-19	1,340	1,151	189
20-24	2,107	1,817	290
25-29	1,449	1,244	205
30-34	965	799	166
35-39	640	520	120
40-44	484	404	80
45-49	331	284	47
50-54	282	240	42
55-59	232	207	25
60-64	158	140	18
65 & over	156	136	20
Total	8,224	7,007	1,217



9.5 Percent alcohol related accidents by county, 1981



*7.41% OF LOS ALAMOS COUNTY ACCIDENTS INVOLVED ALCOHOL

10.1 New Mexico motorcycle accidents trends, 1972-1981

Year	Number of accidents	Number of fatalities	Motorcycle registrations
1981	2,022	48***	52,810
1980	1,769	67**	50,576
1979	1,842	52*	46,803
1978	1,683	49	42,557
1977	1,543	28	38,750
1976	1,327	24	37,578
1975	1,215	27	35,152
1974	1,259	37	33,521
1973	1,348	29	27,321
1972	1,456	33	29,700

The fatality counts include all motorcycle drivers and passengers who died in traffic accidents.

*(includes a bicyclist and pedestrian hit by motorcycles)

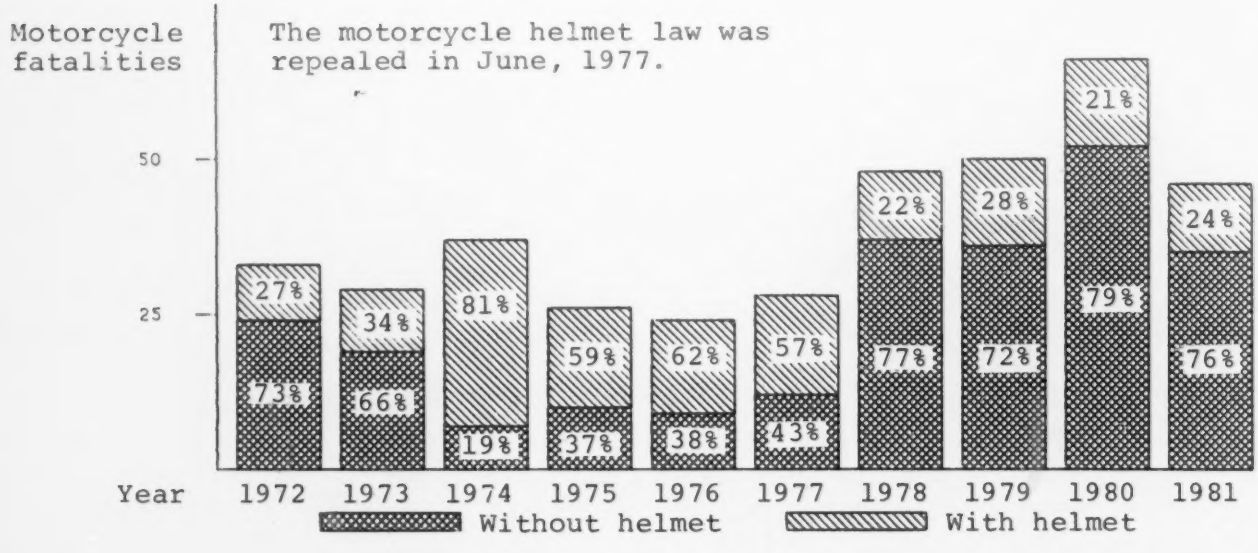
**(includes a pedestrian hit by a motorcycle)

***(includes two pedestrians hit by motorcycles)

10.2 New Mexico helmet usage and injuries, 1981

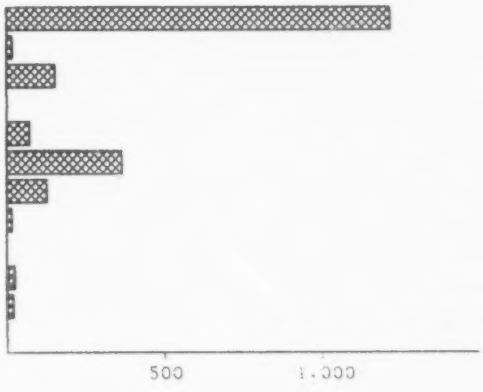
Injury	With helmet	Without helmet	Total
Killed	11	35	46
Incapacitating	234	365	599
Visible injury	333	588	921
Complaint	140	183	323
Unhurt	182	331	513
Total	900	1,502	2,402

10.3 New Mexico motorcycle fatalities, 1972-1981



10.4 New Mexico motorcycle accident class, 1981

	Number	Percent
Other vehicle	1,218	60.24
Pedestrian	19	0.94
Fixed object	154	7.62
Veh. on other road	1	0.05
Parked vehicle	73	3.61
Overturn	366	18.10
Other non-collision	128	6.33
Pedalcyclist	16	0.79
Railroad train	0	0.00
Animal	26	1.29
Other object	21	1.04
Other	0	0.00
Total	2,022	100



10.5 New Mexico motorcycle accident involvements by driver age, 1981

	Accidents			Persons	
Age	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Under 15	168	1	94	1	93
15-19	495	6	401	5	457
20-24	615	19	495	18	563
25-29	338	9	268	9	306
30-34	210	7	183	7	201
35-39	98	0	87	0	97
40-44	42	1	35	1	43
45-49	36	2	29	2	36
50-54	19	0	15	0	19
55-59	9	0	9	0	9
60-64	12	2	9	2	8
65 & over	11	1	9	1	11
Total	2,053	48	1,634	46	1,843

11.1 New Mexico traffic accidents involving trains, 1962-1981

Year	Accidents				Persons	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property damage only	Killed	Injured
1981	22	3	10	9	4	14
1980	31	4	11	16	5	16
1979	35	8	10	17	8	14
1978	33	7	8	18	8	13
1977	26	2	9	15	3	15
1976	34	7	10	17	8	16
1975	34	-	16	18	-	24
1974	43	4	14	25	6	19
1973	44	4	17	23	5	21
1972	34	4	7	23	8	12
1971	44	6	11	27	10	15
1970	29	2	8	19	3	9
1969	32	6	8	18	6	12
1968	29	3	12	14	6	18
1967	25	4	5	16	7	8
1966	25	5	7	13	6	16
1965	35	3	6	26	5	8
1964	33	5	12	16	6	20
1963	26	3	7	16	4	10
1962	29	5	9	15	7	12

12.1 Cibola County accidents, 1978-1981

	ACCIDENTS				PERSONS		Death Rate	100 mvm
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Rate	Killed	Injured		
1978	1,225	26	350	254.1	29	560	6.0	4.82
1979	1,272	26	417	268.4	28	651	5.9	4.74
1980	1,014	20	320	217.1	24	508	5.1	4.67
1981	885	21	271	184.8	25	414	5.2	4.79
Total	4,396	93	1,358	231.1	106	2,133	5.6	19.02

12.2 Valencia County accidents, 1978-1981

	ACCIDENTS				PERSONS		Death Rate	100 mvm
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Rate	Killed	Injured		
1978	879	11	247	441.7	13	412	6.5	1.99
1979	842	15	238	429.6	20	367	10.2	1.96
1980	768	18	259	391.8	22	430	11.2	1.96
1981	717	9	235	356.7	9	401	4.5	2.01
Total	3,206	53	979	404.8	64	1,610	8.1	7.92

Cibola County was formed in June, 1981. The tables above show all of the accidents that occurred in Cibola County and in what remains of Valencia County in 1978 through 1981.

A little about

THE DIVISION OF GOVERNMENT RESEARCH

part of the INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED RESEARCH SERVICES at

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

The Division of Government Research provides specialized information processing services and analysis to a wide range of clients in New Mexico. We are happy once again to have prepared this annual report for the NM Traffic Safety Bureau. This report displays a very small fraction of the data and information we have available about traffic accidents and highway conditions.

We have developed specialized programs for analyzing a myriad of different topics in the highway safety field.

For further information about our specialized services in this and other fields please contact the Director -- Robert U. Anderson -- at 277-3305.

New Mexico traffic accident fatalities by county, 1981